



Est 1885

Policy and Guidelines for Curriculum Provision

Purpose

The aims of Newcastle Preparatory School (NPS) are:

- To create a friendly, caring community where every individual is valued.
- To encourage pupils to reach their full potential in all aspects of life.
- To work in partnership with parents, nurturing and leading pupils towards a lifelong love of learning.

The Curriculum Policy enables the aims of the school to be fulfilled. NPS offers full time supervised education for pupils of compulsory school age.

Planning and Timetabling

There are curriculum policies for every subject as well as medium and long term curriculum plans (curriculum maps). Detailed planning for each week is an important aspect of our provision and the Curriculum Lead monitors the work carefully. The curriculum offers the children experiences in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic, as well as creative education. At NPS we pride ourselves on providing a holistic approach to learning including the use of topics and cross-curricular projects.

The timetable is organised to provide opportunities for such experiences and all parents receive a copy of their child's timetable. An extensive extra-curricular program enhances the provision, and this is reviewed termly. Opportunities are provided for the children to acquire important skills in speaking and listening, English and Maths. Daily speaking and listening opportunities are given for the children, which are age appropriate. English and Maths are core subjects and are therefore given high priority throughout school whilst allowing creativity and cross curricular links. The personal, social and health education reflects the ethos of NPS and upholds the school's aims. A detailed PSHE curriculum is provided and all children are involved in weekly PSHE lessons. The well-being of all children is of paramount importance and effective pastoral care underpins everything that we do. The PSHE program encourages respect for all people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the 2010 Act (a). Regular monitoring takes place and the PSHE coordinator meets with staff to ensure that all children are happy and safe which are key elements of our school charter. Parents are given a copy of the charter and this is upheld by all members of our school community.

Detailed specifications for each subject of what is to be taught throughout the year for each year group taking that subject (i.e., schemes of work) can be found in the specific subject policies.

Inclusion

At NPS the curriculum offered is appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of the children, including children identified by the school as having special educational needs (SEN) and those with an Education Health Care Plan (EHC). The SENCO, and a creative learning team, support children throughout school and work is differentiated appropriately. All teachers have a clear understanding of the needs of each child and assessment is thorough, following the school's assessment policy. The curriculum policies do not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of

law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Monitoring Progress

At NPS all children have the opportunity to learn and make progress. Teachers monitor progress in lessons and differentiate accordingly, a process carefully monitored by the Senior Leadership Team. There is constant review of practice and sharing information about children so that resources and staffing levels are correct to allow children to learn and make progress.

EYFS

Within the Early Years Foundation Stage very detailed planning takes place so that a program of activities is provided which is appropriate to the children's educational needs. The curriculum is broken down into three prime areas (Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development) and four specific areas (Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design). All staff working within the EYFS follow the policies and guidelines for all aspects of the children's learning and development.

Teaching staff are responsible for planning and providing education, following specific curriculum policies, for all children within school.

The Head Teacher is responsible for reviewing the Curriculum Policy and works closely with the Senior Leadership Team and Curriculum Lead to ensure that all aspects of the policy are working within school. This policy has been approved by the school governing body who take an active role in curriculum development. Individual subject policies are reviewed regularly, to keep up to date with changes in Primary Education.

All children at NPS are encouraged to reach their potential and to develop a life-long love of learning, and given effective preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society. This includes children being able to read, speak and write English with adequate fluency for everyday life in England by the time they reach school leaving age. The range of opportunities and activities within our preparatory school prepares children for the important transfer to Senior School with interests being developed to take them beyond their school years.

Reviewed and updated – October 2021