



SUMMERHILL INFANT SCHOOL

Inspiring, nurturing and supporting each child, every day to develop citizens for the future. Our School lays the foundation for a lifetime love of learning



CURRICULUM STATEMENT

Document Summary

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Amendment History

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The school has a vision statement:

**Inspiring, nurturing and supporting each child, every day to develop citizens for the future.
Our School lays the foundation for a lifetime love of learning.**

Our school motto encapsulates our thinking:

'Rise to each Challenge - Shine with Success'

We are preparing our children with the essential key skills that will enable them to fulfil their personal potential in a Modern Britain as part of a global community.

In order for every child to achieve their potential we ensure equality of opportunity for all.

Equality of access to the curriculum and all associated activities is guaranteed by providing **effectively and appropriately** for the particular needs of each child. Careful record keeping ensures that this is so. Not only do we check that all activities are available and are carried out by all children, but that the resources we provide reflect positive examples of all groups in society and are not discriminatory in any way.

The school environment discourages stereotyping in terms of ability, gender, race, creed or disability. Society today is made up of many cultures whose differences we feel can contribute to the enhancement of children's learning. The ethos of the school reflects the importance we place on respect for other people. We make a point of demonstrating this through the topics studied, visits and visitors, as well as in our displays and the displays of children's work throughout the school.



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Every child has a positive contribution to make. We celebrate the children's achievements by exhibiting work representative of all areas of the curriculum. The Staff at Summerhill Infant School take care that the way in which they display children's work reflects the value they place on it. We hope that this demonstration of our pride in children's achievements will foster high self-esteem for all our pupils.

Our children are all encouraged to care for their environment in the classroom, throughout the school and grounds and to consider broader issues of environmental awareness. The Governors are equally committed to maintaining and indeed improving conditions throughout the school but of course, this has to be carried out within the constraints of school priorities and budgets.

We make sure we cover a broad curriculum and ensure continuity and progression for all children. We believe, as is widely accepted, that the curriculum should cover aesthetic, creative, ethical, linguistic, mathematical, scientific, physical, social, health and spiritual development. As far as possible our children are provided with concrete first hand experiences in order to form firm foundations in their development towards logical reasoning and abstract thinking.

We are committed to providing an environment which allows all children to develop to their fullest potential throughout all areas of the curriculum. We will not place a limit on our expectations of what children should be able to achieve. It is our aim that through positive encouragement and praise, all children should have sufficient confidence to rise to any challenge given.

Our approach to learning reflects the significance we place on each individual as a learner. Each child is able to learn at his/her pace according to ability. This means that although there are overall curriculum guidelines and objectives (ie The Foundation Stage and National Curriculum), each individual child's curriculum is adapted according to his/her needs.

We consider that throughout the first, very important stage of a child's formal education, learning should not appear to be fragmented and irrelevant to his/her world and previous experiences. This learning takes place through a topic-based approach so that the concepts, skills and attitudes which all children develop enable them to understand that knowledge has cross-curricular links and is easily transferrable just as it is in adult life.

The Teachers, through guidance and professional expertise, encourage all children to become independent learners. We place great emphasis on learning as a life-long journey. They are encouraged to reflect on and carry out a self-evaluation of the work that they have done. We hope that the learning environment we create stimulates and excites in all children a thirst for knowledge and discovery. We do not view learning as a process that is confined to educational establishments or restricted by age and so we warmly welcome the active involvement of Parents/Carers as partners in education both in and out of school. We



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continue to make links outside the school so that we become an integral part of the local community.

All Teachers keep detailed, accurate records of children's progress, which are always available for Parents/Carers to see and which are used as a diagnostic tool for planning appropriate learning experiences to ensure pupils master key skills and concepts and develop a secure understanding of the world around them.

In this way we can provide a curriculum suitable for individual needs and ensure that it is broad, balanced and relevant.

The information about our curriculum is shared in many ways. For new to Reception Parents/Carers we hold an Information Sharing evening in the Summer Term before the children start, this includes an in depth talk about how we deliver the curriculum. We also invite Parents/Carers, whose children will transfer to Years 1 and 2 to a 'Meet your new Teacher' session in the Summer Term, which includes an outline of the curriculum. The current Reception Parents/Carers are invited in the summer term to a talk run by the Foundation Stage Leader and Year 1 Leader about the transition into Year 1. In the Autumn Term there is a curriculum evening to explain how we teach Literacy and Maths and how Parents/Carers can support their children at home.

Every year Staff arrange several Open Days for Parents/Carers to come and share the learning in the classrooms or an exhibition of the topic based learning.

If at any time a child should give us cause for concern, then we do not hesitate to contact his/her Parents/Carers. We believe that an exchange of information between Parents/Carers and school is very important if we are to provide effective solutions to problems.

The partnership between Parents/Carers and school is highly valued and regular information about the curriculum is given in termly Newsletters from each Year Group and in the Headteacher's Newsletters.

Our Governors are steadfastly committed to providing all our children with learning experiences of the highest quality, so that their time spent with us becomes the start of a lifelong learning journey which will prepare them for citizenship in modern Britain and a rapidly shrinking global community.

We believe it is important to instil in every learner a high self-esteem so that they have the courage and confidence to rise to any challenges life has to offer in the future.

Our Pupils will leave us with a respect for others and a love of the world about them that will, if nurtured and developed, last all their days.