

## **Parklands Primary School**

### **Curriculum Statement 2017 - 2018**

At Parklands Primary School we view the curriculum as the sum of experiences that pupils have access to during their time with us. This encompasses:

- The taught curriculum, including the national curriculum (core and foundation subjects) RE and PSHE
- Social skills
- Extra-curricular activities
- Whole school events
- Assemblies and Worship
- Residential and other off-site experiences
- Workshops and performances

Our curriculum is based on National guidance. The schemes of work are supported by both local (county, town-wide or purpose written by school) and published material. We use these in our planning to ensure a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum for our children, based on individual and group needs. The current schemes of work can be found in the teaching and learning policy Appendix.

We believe that children learn best when they are motivated, excited and involved in their activities and provide a range of experiences that help bring learning to life. Much of our curriculum is based on practical, first-hand experiences, with opportunities to learn that suit a range of learning styles, using the external as well as the internal environment. Cross-curricular links are made wherever possible to support the learning experience and ICT and Drama are both used as tools for learning across a range of subject areas. We use the Northampton "Drama for Writing" units across the school and talk for Learning plays an important role with paired talk and group work a regular part of the school day. Talk is also an important part of our Home/School partnership with talk homework supporting the topics being covered in class.

We aim to provide a range of high quality resources to support the learning. These include:

- A well-stocked and up to date library
- A dedicated Computing suite, set of mini laptops (wireless), class set of iPads and interactive whiteboards in all classrooms
- Plentiful equipment for practical subjects such as PE, Art, DT and Music
- Access to a range of visiting speakers and professionals (such as the school nurse, football coaches, peripatetic music staff from the Northamptonshire Music Service)
- An established outdoor environment including our own nature reserve which is currently being developed further for our Forest schools project.

- Hard play and grassed areas for a range of physical activities. We use Moulton College swimming pool and swimming teacher to enable KS2 pupils to have a block of swimming lessons each year from Y3 to Y6.

The creative curriculum is enhanced through a close working relationship with peripatetic staff from the Music Trust and partnership with other schools. The physical education curriculum is enhanced by an extensive range of extra-curricular activities. The school promotes sport in the local community and local cluster and is active in promoting high quality PE and School sport through the local School Sports programme.

Our long term curriculum map outlines the main units of work to be covered in each year group. Medium term plans detail objectives, learning outcomes and resources. Assessment for learning is embedded in the units and children take an active part in an evaluation of and progression in their work. We use Assertive Mentoring as a system for discussing and measuring progress with pupils and the regular meetings form part of our reporting procedures to parents.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

The teaching and support staff are committed to the enhancement and enrichment of the curriculum through the provision of a range of extra-curricular activities. These may include some or all of the following:

- Drama (Warts and All Theatre company)
  - Netball
  - UDance
  - Chess
  - Library
  - Choirs
  - Strings group
  - Brass group
  - Hotshots Basketball
  - Nature Club
  - Change 4 Life
  - Art Club
  - There are also from time to time, clubs organised and run by pupils for pupils and these vary each year.
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|-------------------|
| Gardening         |
| Rugby             |
| Homework          |
| Football          |
| School Council    |
| Woodwind Ensemble |
| Family Funs       |
| Ukulele group     |
| Fundamentals      |
| Cross Country     |

### **Education off-site**

We believe that it is important for children to experience learning in a range of environments and so take our children off-site where they may learn within a different and relevant context. Some visits may take place for just part of a day whilst others are longer and include extended time away from school. We believe that residential experiences are invaluable in enabling children to form new friendships and face challenges that they may otherwise not encounter. The following list provides an example of the type of visits that the children at this school may enjoy during their time with us:

- Farm visit – West Lodge Farm
- Bradlaugh Fields

- Stanwick lakes
- Northampton town trail
- Salcey Forest
- 2 nights residential at the Frontier Centre, Irthlingborough (Y4)
- National Space Centre
- Stoke Bruerne
- 2 nights residential at The Pioneer Centre, Kidderminster

### **Educational enrichment**

We aim to support curriculum delivery through the use of visiting speakers and groups. This is to take advantage of professional expertise and widen the number of adults that are involved in delivering educational experiences.

The following individuals / organisations are examples of those organisations who have routinely been involved with our school:

- St John Ambulance – first aid in Key Stage 2
- School Nurse – PSHE curriculum
- Shakespeare workshops – Year 2 and Year 6
- Ancient Greek workshop – Year 3
- Re-enactment activities – marriage ceremony -Y1, Baptism – Reception classes
- Living History activities eg Viking Day
- Maths activity (themed) days – across the whole school
- Science days

### **Contribution to a wider society / British Values**

We believe that it is important that children become aware of their place in society and of the value in helping others less fortunate than themselves both in this country and abroad. We use our assemblies as a forum to deliver information including British Values and much work is also supported in class through cross-curricular themes. This work also helps our children gain an understanding of an increasingly multi-cultural society, and the importance of celebration and tolerance of our similarities and differences.

We encourage our children to become involved with and actively support a number of charitable organisations. These may vary from year to year, but typically include the following groups:

- British Legion Poppy appeal
- MacMillan
- The British Heart Foundation
- Barnardos
- Comic Relief / Sport Relief
- Children in Need / Red Nose day
- Guide dogs for the blind
- Cynthia Spencer Hospice
- The Air Ambulance
- Northampton Street Project Appeal