



Old Basing Infant School

Subject Statements

Art

We encourage our children to explore and experiment with art through topic based activities whilst acquiring the basic knowledge and skills required to make progress. All children develop their own creativity whilst investigating colour, shape and form through painting, drawing and sculpture.

Computing

Our computing curriculum aims to equip our children with the skills to use technology safely in the world today. The children use laptops, desktops, pcs, Bee-bots and iPads in conjunction with many other areas of the curriculum so they can understand the value of the power at their fingertips. We teach children how to research, how to communicate information and the programs that would be most appropriate, and how technology can benefit us in our lives. E-safety is an integral part of our computing curriculum and is overtly taught to children to ensure they can stay safe online and use technology responsibly.

DT

Through all areas of DT children are taught the process of designing, making and evaluating. They also learn DT skills through food technology and in addition, use this knowledge to understand how this can support a healthy lifestyle.

English

Reading and Phonics - Synthetic Phonics are taught across Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2, through a mixture of daily whole class, streamed or small group phonics depending on the needs of the child and cohort. When children first begin school they are exposed to a phonics rich environment and teaching focuses on consolidating Phase 1 skills through child initiated learning. Monster Phonics is the phonic scheme that we use to teach phonics across the school.

Our intent is that by the end of Year 1 the vast majority of children are competent and confident in phonics such that they are able to reach the standard required for the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check with Year 2 then focusing on the spelling patterns as outlined in the National Curriculum.

At Old Basing Infants we want our children to have a love for reading and as such try to place reading at the heart of what we do. Children are read to daily, with texts being carefully selected across a range of genres to enable teachers to expose children to a wide range of writing styles. Children take part in guided reading every week We supplement the children's reading in school with systems to support and encourage reading at home. Children have access to a wide range of reading materials through their library books, their individual book band reading books, their guided reading materials and the online platform, Bug Club.

Writing - We want all of our children to leave us as competent, confident writers, who can express their ideas and views both orally and on paper. We recognise that children need to be able to confidently say what they want to write before they can write it. Our English curriculum ensures that children are given

opportunity to orally rehearse different aspects of writing. We also think it is important to include the teaching of vocabulary within our curriculum to ensure that all children are being exposed to a wide range. Whole school systems such as 'word of the week' and 'helicopter stories' help to foster a love of learning and an interest in exploring of new vocabulary. We want our children to be engaged and enthusiastic about writing so we try to ensure all writing opportunities have an exciting hook. Our hooks often come through a text driver in order to expose children to a wide range of literature. We strive to select texts which clearly demonstrate the skills and genres we want to see the children using in their writing. As well as focusing on teaching children about good composition skills for their writing, as outlined in the National Curriculum 2014, we also have a sharp focus on the core technical skills of spelling, punctuation and grammar. These skills are taught through discreet SPaG lessons as well as through general English lessons. We believe a good balance between written and oral work, alongside a good base of text drivers, will ensure our children develop a love of writing as well as being technically accurate.

History and Geography

Here at Old Basing Infant School we aim for high quality, enquiry based approach to teaching Geography and History that inspires pupils' curiosity about the world, the people that live in it, and the past in a meaningful context that interests and engages them. It is often implemented through a thematic approach where the children investigate and discover the answer to the original inquiry, whilst gathering further information and developing a growing knowledge of the subject content. The impact of this approach is to equip the children with the geographical and historical skills needed to investigate further lines of enquiry as they are exposed to more of Britain's, and the wider world's past, as well as the diverse places, people, resources, environments and processes later in life.

Maths

We want all children to be confident to tackle mathematical problems, big or small, no matter what their ability or needs. By teaching concepts in a concrete, pictorial and then abstract way, children understand concepts fully and can apply their knowledge in other areas. This is supported by daily Mega Maths sessions in which teachers encourage discussion and model efficient calculation strategies.

We aim for all children to be fluent in their understanding of Maths and be able to recall and apply mathematical knowledge to solve problems in both simple and more complex ways, persevering to break larger challenges into smaller achievable steps. Individual 'Maths Passports' allow the children to improve upon their basic number skills and earn certificates to celebrate their hard work and achievement along the way, whilst giving parents a simple way to support their children at home with their Maths learning.

Basic number skills such as counting and addition and subtraction facts are taught daily in a variety of ways. As we know that good mathematicians make links within and between areas of mathematics to support their understanding of concepts, we encourage children to use their reasoning skills to solve problems, generalise and develop proof using appropriate mathematical language. Reasoning tasks for all children are identified and planned for in each Maths session so that children have to use their learnt skills fluently to solve problems, make links and explain their thinking. This encourages making meaning of the skills that they are taught in Maths so that they can use them in real life contexts.

Music

Music encourages creativity and we give our children the opportunity to experience and take part in it at their own level. It can help with the development of cross-curricular skills whilst exploring and developing their own ideas and preferences. Our children listen to and respond well to a variety of different styles of music, creating their own music, based on their own interests. This helps them build the basic skills.

Within school, children are encouraged to take part in musical activities through lessons, clubs and formal instrumental lessons. Children's musicality is valued through performances to peers and family and our annual singing competition.

PE

Physical Education focuses on giving our children a solid foundation of physical skills, understanding of how to live a healthy and active life and how to participate in games with fair play and respect. Our curriculum allows the children to develop their skills in a variety of physical activities. They are encouraged to evaluate their skills in isolation to improve them, in addition to considering how to adapt these skills to be successful in a variety of games. We have playground equipment and activities to give our children the freedom to explore their skills, abilities and boundaries.

PSHE

PSHE teaches children how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. This includes learning about not only their physical and mental health but also the importance of developing respect and tolerance for all regardless of age, gender, faith, ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability. Heartsmart, UNICEF, the UNCRC, and the latest guidance on Relationships Education and Health Education are a starting point for teaching our children about the qualities we believe will help them grow into happy, healthy adults. These qualities include resilience, determination, challenge, respect, difference and inclusivity. We believe that our PSHE Curriculum empowers children to develop a sense of responsibility for themselves, each other and the wider local and global community.

RE

The purpose of RE at Old Basing Infant School is to support the development of children's own values, to contribute to the promotion of British values and to support children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This enables children to interpret and respond to a variety of concepts, beliefs and practices within religions and to their own and others' cultural and life experiences. This takes the form of encountering religious stories, festivals, artefacts, places of worship, rituals and beliefs. RE is taught in accordance with the legal requirements of the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire; Living Difference III. Through this approach the children learn about multi-cultural Britain and the values of respect and appreciation of all religions in our country. Assemblies which include acts of collective worship are led by our head teacher and class teachers on a weekly basis and cover festivals and celebrations of other faiths. A member of the local church takes assembly half termly to support the requirement for collective worship to be broadly Christian in nature. Furthermore, our children explore core values and 'Big Questions' weekly in order to develop respect for alternate viewpoints and different philosophical ideas, As well as this visitors from our community come and share their own experiences and beliefs with the children. Wherever possible we use first-hand experience as a stimulus for learning. We encourage children to question the stories, the practices and beliefs they encounter and form opinions about them.

Science

Where possible, Science teaching is linked to the children's interests and choice of topic whilst ensuring full coverage of the National Curriculum. Children develop their scientific skills through observations, investigations and their own planning of these, asking questions and researching. Children enjoy practical based learning, both in the classroom and outdoors, to reinforce and develop their scientific skills. Longitudinal studies are an important aspect of Science teaching and are used by all Year groups to develop scientific ideas and understanding.