

Learning for Ourselves, Respect, We Can



CURRICULUM (Active Learning) STATEMENT POLICY

Right 13-You have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.

Right 17- You have the right to get information that is important to your wellbeing, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need.

Right 3-All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they think about how their decision will affect children.

Right 29- Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Right 28-You have the to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

Reviewer: D South

Date: October 2016

Next review date: June 2018

Lyndhurst Infant School Curriculum Statement

This curriculum statement refers to all learning and all subject areas taught at Lyndhurst Infant School. We believe that the philosophy of teaching and learning is the same for all subject areas. This philosophy is built on a belief that the children who attend Lyndhurst Infant School deserve the very best opportunities for teaching and learning with dedicated and skilled adults who plan ambitious learning experiences so that all children achieve.

Lyndhurst First School is an inclusive learning community. This policy should also be read in conjunction with our other school policies. For example:

- Behaviour and Anti Bullying
- Inclusion and SEN
- Assessment
- Marking, Feedback and Response
- SMSC

At Lyndhurst Infant School we follow the National Curriculum guidance appropriate for each child's stage of learning. When children start school in the Reception class they will follow a curriculum in line with the **Early Years Foundation Stage**. In Years 1 and 2 (also known as Key Stage 1) children will work within the **National Curriculum**.

Staff plan a curriculum that suits the needs of the children and this is an ongoing and flexible process as no two classes are ever the same! All learning focuses on teaching a set of skills. Regular and ongoing Assessment ensures that the planning and provision is constantly adapted for each group and cohort of children. Each term classes follow a curriculum that is planned under one or several 'themes' or 'topics'. We believe that children learn best through first hand experiences (Active Learning) so we try to visit places of interest and purpose and invite visitors into school. We are proud of the opportunities we offer children at Lyndhurst. This helps to create real experiences for the children and also gives them an understanding of how their skills could be used in real life jobs.

Our curriculum is divided into 6 areas of learning:

- *Understanding English, Communication and Languages* – English, English as an Additional Language, and Internationalism
- *Mathematical Understanding*
- *Science and Technological Understanding* – Science, Design Technology and ICT
- *Human, Social and Environmental Understanding* – History, Geography, RE, Citizenship, Environmental Sciences/Eco Schools
- *Understanding Physical Health and Well being* – PSCHE, PE, Games, Healthy Schools
- *Understanding the Arts and Design* – Art, Music, Dance, Drama

Some curriculum areas are sometimes taught as discrete subjects but often subjects are taught all together as a more creative/holistic approach. We also expect children to contribute to their learning by suggesting ways to develop topics, completing independent research and by contributing learning from home.

Aims of our curriculum (all subject areas):

We aim to:

- Welcome children into a safe, secure and caring environment where they are encouraged to 'have a go' and make the most of their opportunities
- Encourage children to value each other and make a positive contribution within the local and wider community
- Provide a creative and enjoyable curriculum through which the children can achieve
- Inspire the children to develop skills for life in order to approach the future with confidence and independence

Active Learning

- We believe that successful learning takes place when children are actively involved in the learning process. We call this 'Active learning'. Learning at Lyndhurst takes place both indoors and outdoors and planned experiences take account of the different ways in which learners attain and reinforce new skills and knowledge.
- Our curriculum is planned by adults who take account of the needs and interests of our children, who have high expectations and aspirations in terms of attainment and behaviour, who reflect on National agendas and also the key priorities of our school as identified in our School Improvement plan and in individual and class data analysis.

Children at Lyndhurst Infant School

All children are welcome to Lyndhurst Infant School. We plan to teach a broad and balanced curriculum reflecting the world in which we live, ensuring that the children are supported and challenged in their learning. This includes an international and cultural awareness and ensuring children have good ICT and communication skills.

We encourage the children to be self-aware, have empathy for others and play an active role in the development of their community. We want them to feel a sense of pride in their world so that they learn to respect and care for it. We do this through our Personal and Social education, RRS (Rights Respecting Schools) and our Values system.

We provide an environment that fosters a love of learning, is safe, secure and caring and one in which children can learn to take risks.

At Lyndhurst Infant School we believe that children learn best when:

- They are excited about what they are learning
- They are given opportunities to investigate, explore and discover
- They are allowed to make choices, take risks and learn and build on the consequences
- Their efforts are valued and recognized, both at home and at school
- They are secure and happy
- They are well prepared for the school day
- They see that staff, parents and carers are working together
- They have an understanding of the next steps in their learning and are challenged to aspire
- They are encouraged to be responsible and independent

Our curriculum is planned under 3 Core Curriculum Values – Learning For Ourselves, Respect and We can.

Learning for Ourselves

Is about:

- Being creative and problem solving
- Personalised learning
- Resourcefulness
- Being collaborative
- Motivation and enjoyment
- A curriculum that meets different learning styles
- Starting with the children's interests and building on their skills
- Ownership of learning
- First hand experiences
- Building skills and aspirations for the future

Learners will:

- Make and apply creative connections in their learning and in different learning environments
- Take risks and adopt a 'have a go' attitude
- Know their next steps and take their learning further
- Be independent learners
- Make decisions about how and what they will learn
- Be confident in asking for support from adults and peers
- Take pride in their work and know how to present their learning

We will provide:

- A resourceful, multisensory environment for the children to explore and express ideas
- Opportunities to reflect on their learning
- A motivating and personalised curriculum
- Staff who understand how children learn best and who are inspirational
- Open ended learning that encourages critical thinking
- Opportunities for the children to work independently and collaboratively
- Opportunities to ask and answer open ended questions to clarify their learning and extend thinking

Respect

Is about:

- Being responsible
- Being aware of the needs and feelings of others
- Being able to listen to and value the opinions of others
- Valuing our environment and resources
- Understanding and accepting each others beliefs and cultures
- Being honest and trustworthy
- Celebrating our own and others achievements
- Having good manners and following rules that allow everyone to work and play collaboratively

Learners will:

- Listen to others, respond appropriately and sensitively
- Be kind and thoughtful in what is said and done
- Approach learning with an open mind
- Feel happy and secure and do what they can to help others feel the same way
- Take responsibility for the school environment and the wider world
- Care for both mind and body

We will provide:

- Opportunities to learn about different cultures and the beliefs of others
- Role models and high expectations
- Opportunities to celebrate achievements
- Support when it is needed
- Opportunities for children to be involved in the wider community i.e. clubs, events, competitions, inter school and community events
- A listening culture
- Opportunities for reflection

- Opportunities for both independent and collaborative work

We can

Is about:

- Being confident and having self belief
- Being motivated
- Being resourceful and open minded
- Being resilient
- Having a sense of pride in achievements
- Being able to work positively with others
- Being reflective about their learning

Learners will:

- Be willing to take risks
- Have an enthusiastic approach to learning
- Bring prior knowledge and skills to a task and be able to solve problems
- Have high personal expectations and relish challenge
- Listen to, and take into account others opinions and make their own positive contributions
- Know the next steps in their learning journey and know how to get there

We will provide:

- Planned opportunities to work with others in different roles to solve problems
- A skills based curriculum which is relevant and enriched with first hand experiences
- A positive and secure working environment where achievements are valued
- A well resourced learning environment that promotes independence and provokes learning
- An ethos which values inclusion

Our Core Values (including SMSC and RRS) underpin all curriculum planning and are also integral to our assessment policy and procedures. We believe that children at Lyndhurst should have access to a curriculum that is going to teach them skills for life, excite them and give them a passion for learning. Curriculum opportunities make the most of our local environmental areas. For example children are taught the importance of respecting their local environment through Forest Schools and Beach Schools work.