

ST NEOT SCHOOL
CURRICULUM RATIONALE

Intent

The staff at St Neot Primary School work hard to inspire and engage the children by creating topics that are interesting and challenging. The aim of our curriculum is to prepare our pupils, ensuring they are equipped with the full range of skills that allows them to be lifelong learners ready for the next steps in their education and as well as preparing them for the wider world.

At St Neot Primary School we are proud of the broad and balanced progressive curriculum which builds on the knowledge, skills and understanding of all children. Through a happy learning environment for all, we provide the opportunity for every child to reach their full potential.

Our curriculum drives all we do and encompasses all forms of learning both within the classroom and outside it. We believe that every child has the right to an exciting, engaging and inclusive curriculum that both meets the academic needs of every child as well as building resilient, inquisitive and rounded young people who are ready to enter the wider world. Our aim is to provide our children with an engaging, exciting and empowering curriculum that equips them for today and tomorrow, which also supports and develops their mental health and well-being.

Every child is recognised as a unique individual. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values with a vision to prepare them for life beyond primary school. We constantly provide enrichment opportunities to engage learning. We believe that childhood should be a happy, investigative and enquiring time in our lives, where there are no limits to curiosity and there is a passion for new experiences and knowledge. We promote positive attitudes to learning which reflect the values and skills needed to promote responsibility for learning and future success.

The impact of our curriculum and school offer is seen through a myriad of sources. To see the real impact we would encourage you to talk with our children to hear the breadth of experiences they have had; the depth of confidence they have in their abilities; and how ready they are to continue to grow through their next steps. Our newsletter and website are excellent sources of information charting the journey of our school each year, and demonstrating the rich variety that every child experiences. Furthermore, discussion with our engaged parent body, proactive Governors and innovative staff will illustrate how our curriculum impacts our children and their families.

Community involvement is an integral part of our curriculum, inviting families and visitors to facilitate learning new skills and sharing experiences such as assemblies and celebration events. Children leave St Neot Primary School with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.

As with all schools, we also measure the impact of our children's education through statutory end of Y6 assessments (SATs), Y1 phonics testing, Y2 SATs and Y4 multiplication tests. We also monitor through internal data during each year of our pupils' education. Teachers and senior staff meet every long term (three times a year) to discuss every child in terms of their academic strengths and barriers, but also in terms of their social, pastoral and mental health needs. Parent consultations are held twice a year and reports are sent home at the end of the year; parents are given the opportunity to talk to staff about these.

We actively promote the fundamental British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils is woven throughout the curriculum.

Implementation

Our balanced and broad curriculum is delivered through topics that meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum 2014. We have worked hard to create progressive curriculum maps for each mixed age class from Foundation to Year 6, to incorporate the key elements of the EYFS Framework and National Curriculum and also to inspire and enthuse children. Each topic is planned carefully, starting with children's current knowledge and skills, so that real progress is made. The planning of the curriculum is based around a two-year rolling programme to ensure coverage of selected topics for all children who progress through the school. Our progressive curriculum map is regularly reviewed to ensure compatibility with new directives or to make necessary improvements to the existing programme of work. Our curriculum is inclusive for all and the more able are challenged according to their strengths. Children who find aspects of their learning more difficult are appropriately supported, so that they are enabled to achieve success. At St Neot School we monitor and track learners to secure improved outcomes for each pupil.

All subject leaders are given training and opportunities to keep developing their own subject knowledge, skills and understanding so they can support curriculum development and their colleagues throughout the school.

We believe that children learn best when they enjoy their learning and our various and engaging topics capture children's interest and imaginations. Our highly skilled and experienced staff plan and deliver high quality lessons.

Our curriculum is enriched through local community visits and projects, school trips, visiting speakers and residential trips. We firmly believe that real life experiences like these create lasting memories and strengthen the learning happening in school. We also have an excellent range of after school clubs including computing, choir, football, activity blast, rugby, cooking and many more

At St Neot Primary School, we are very proud of our extensive outdoor environment. We have an outdoor classroom, dedicated Wild Tribe areas, allotment, sensory gardens, sports field and access to the village community gardens, all of which are used to enrich the children's learning and experiences. Our school grounds are used for active learning for all of our pupils.

We understand the crucial role parents have in promoting learning beyond the school gate and ensuring children make the best possible progress. We pride ourselves on being an open, friendly and approachable school that encourages parents to be actively involved in children's learning. As well as Parents Evenings, we host regular events to inform parents how they can support their child or to come and work alongside their child.

St Neot Primary School Primary School recognises the importance of Reading, Writing and Maths teaching in order to open up other areas of the curriculum and therefore a large emphasis is placed on these areas. In addition to regular English and Maths teaching, we try to make as many cross-curricular links as possible in order to utilise these skills in a range of contexts.

Teachers have a good knowledge of the subjects they teach. Subject leaders provide effective support including for those teaching outside their main area of expertise.

We have designed and planned our curriculum to offer a range of experiences, which contribute to every child receiving a full and rich curriculum. These support and champion our culture and ensure that our children benefit from a full range of academic and SMSC activities. These activities enrich their lives and those of our whole community and make them proud of their British values and of the diverse society to which they belong.

We are proud that our curriculum gives our children the skills, confidence and self-belief to lead a happy and fulfilled life by encouraging them to aim high towards their goals in life.

Impact: to be reviewed at the end of each year

SEND children and children who are working towards the expected standard

At St Neot Primary School, we have a determined approach that all children will meet the expected or exceed the expected standard in the curriculum unless they have a specific need. We regularly monitor and track our children's reading ability through formative assessments. We ensure that any gaps in knowledge or forgotten knowledge are timetabled in EYFS and KS1 for children who need same-day intervention to consolidate and secure gaps in their knowledge.