Curriculum Statement

At Benwick Primary School we offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced ensuring that all children become engaged, active and life-long learners.

We follow the new National Curriculum of 2014 with the core subjects of (English, Maths, Science, Computing and RE and the foundation subjects of History, Geography, Music, PE, DT, Art and MFL. Through medium planning teachers’ ensure that children’s learning is enriched and meaningful.

As a school we follow some Schemes of Work which enable a focussed curriculum based on assessment, monitoring, differentiation and quality first teaching. In Key Stage 1 we follow Ruth Miskin’s Read Write Inc Phonics programme. This provides a consistent approach across the classes ensuring children are supported and challenged.

For Maths, teachers follow the Primary Advantage Maths scheme and use this alongside White Rose planning materials to ensure that children are provided with opportunities to learn through concrete, pictorial and abstract methods. This allows for children to develop a deeper understanding in preparation for reasoning and problem solving.

As the school teaches in mixed age classes, the National Curriculum objectives have been organised into a two year topic cycle for each class. Children study a topic over a term or half-term. Realistic and meaningful links are made to these topic headings allowing a creative curriculum to be designed, which meets the needs of all children. We teach Religious Education (Cambridgeshire County Council Agreed Syllabus) and Personal Social and Health Education (Cambridgeshire PSHE Service Personal Development Programme), discretely, rather than within a topic.

We are committed to providing opportunities for children to apply their skills in a range of meaningful contexts. Enrichment is a vital part of our curriculum and a big part of why children love attending Benwick Primary School. We strive to provide a wide range of opportunities – school trips including taking part in the Voice in a Million concert at Wembley, residential trips to Burwell House and the Kingswood Centre at West Runton, visitors, special whole school days and weeks, extra-curricular clubs, sports competitions and events, music opportunities, forest school and plays and performances.

We have an assessment cycle for the year across the whole school, using the PIRA, PUMA and GAPS tests from Rising Stars. These are used as a summative assessment of each term. Daily formative assessment ie AFL, marking, verbal feedback all build a picture of a child’s progress and attainment, and enables teachers to identify gaps in learning and provides support through interventions. A mixture of formative and summative assessment is used to identify if children are developing, expected or exceeding their year group objectives.

Through a rigorous system of monitoring by subject leaders, senior leaders and governors we are certain that our curriculum is being delivered effectively ensuring that our children are proud of the work they produce and that standards are high across all subjects.

Everything we do, including the curriculum, is underpinned by the school’s values (respect, resilience, responsibility, honesty and teamwork), British Values, SMSC and how passionately we believe in high quality education for all learners. Our focus on pastoral care and well-being allows all children not just to be prepared for the next step in their education.