

Black Horse Hill Infant School



Curriculum Policy

10th February 2022

Approved by Committee _____

24th March 2022

Approved by Full Governing Body _____

A Cowan

Signed _____ (Chair)

J Morris

Signed _____ (Headteacher)

Learning for Life



School Vision

Together, our schools will: -

Nurture and empower our children to become creative, compassionate and confident citizens, in a diverse and ever-changing world.

School Aims

Our school community will: -

- Have high expectations for all
- Inspire a passion for learning
- Provide an enjoyable, coherent curriculum
- Develop positive relationships through collaboration
- Create a safe and happy environment

School Values

All our children, staff and parents will share the same core principles of: -

- Respect
- Honesty
- Kindness
- Excellence
- Resilience
- Friendship
- Courtesy



We want our children running through the gates and waiting at our doors desperate to get into school because they can't wait to learn!

Our School Vision

Our school motto is "*Learning for Life!*"

We want to nurture and empower our children to become creative, compassionate and confident citizens who know that they can make a difference in our diverse and ever-changing world both now, in the next stage of their education and in the future.

At Black Horse Hill Infant School we aim high. We ensure that every child has access to an ambitious broad, balanced and supportive curriculum. Through this we are able to give our pupils a range of opportunities and experiences to grow and develop academically, physically, socially and morally.

Our Curriculum Intent

Our school's curriculum is broad and balanced, with high ambition for all pupils. It is rooted in the National and EYFS curriculum, and has grown from a solid agreement between all subject leaders about the knowledge and skills that pupils need in order to ensure that they develop resilience; growing and developing academically, physically, socially and morally. Our curriculum, together with a range of additional experiences and after school activities, introduces children to the best that has been thought and said, helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

We aim to achieve the following through our curriculum design and delivery:

- To provide all pupils with an ambitious, rich, stimulating and challenging curriculum.
- Every child a reader. For children to leave our school reading fluently, reading widely and loving books.
- To provide opportunities for all learners to develop detailed knowledge, skills and vocabulary across all subject areas. There is a sharp focus on developing vocabulary across the school as we recognise the role it plays in building children's knowledge (schema).
- To promote long-term learning and we believe that progress means knowing more and remembering more.
- To provide opportunities for children to remember and revisit key knowledge, skills and vocabulary.

- To develop the hearts and minds of all our children whatever their background or circumstances. Relationships and character education, our school values and fundamental British Values are an integral part of school life and curriculum.
- To encourage and support pupils to be responsible, respectful, fair and tolerant as they grow into young adults in line with British Values.
- To ensure that pupils are ready for the next stage in their education, ensuring that they acquire the knowledge and skills required to meet their interests and aspirations.

Implementing the curriculum

Teachers at Black Horse Hill recognise that they, like the children, are always learning and they strive to develop their subject expertise across the curriculum. Teachers willingly take on board new ideas gained from professional development and collaboration with other schools. From this we acknowledge that the curriculum that we provide is ever-evolving to meet the needs of the learners at our school. In some areas of the curriculum, schemes of work are used to support the planning process but teachers and subject leaders adapt and amend the content to meet the need of all learners including those children who are disadvantaged or have additional needs.

Long-term planning is mapped out for each year group in our Long-Term overviews. This ensures that there is coverage of the National Curriculum Programme of Study and EYFS Curriculum. Medium-term planning sets out the key knowledge, skills and vocabulary that will be taught in each year group, each term; in summary, what we want the children to know and remember in that school term.

Short-term planning outlines how the knowledge and vocabulary will be delivered to the children. Achieving a balance in lessons between contextualising/ hooking the children into their learning and delivering the knowledge is carefully considered. To be successful in their learning we understand that children need to have minimal cognitive overload and be able to focus clearly on the knowledge that is being imparted. There are cross-curricular links made in our curriculum so that learning is revisited in different contexts. In each lesson however children know which area of the curriculum they are learning about.

Reading is prioritised and our phonics programme and school reading model means children are reading daily and with trained adults. Interventions are timely and support those vulnerable learners to catch up with their peers.

When implementing our curriculum there is a large emphasis in our classrooms on providing children with the opportunity to develop their vocabulary and communication skills. Our belief is that if children can articulate their understanding to others it will lead to a deeper understanding and mastery of subjects. Research also suggests that explicit teaching of vocabulary can enrich children's knowledge and understanding of the world so this is something we aim to do.

Pupil groupings are flexible and children are organised to maximise learning. Teachers monitor learning and provide timely feedback. We understand that just because something has been taught our pupils may not retain the information. Teaching staff give feedback to

children about their learning in different ways with children having time to respond to any feedback. Assessment opportunities are built into the curriculum and we continue to develop strategies and methods to get children knowing more and remembering more.

Opportunities to enhance and enrich our curriculum are provided through our Curriculum Pledge:

- educational visits
- sport coaches/sporting events
- visitors including parents, artists, musicians, charitable organisations
- use of the school grounds, the locality and the wider environment
- assemblies
- themed weeks such as Science Week or our Coast to Country project
- extra-curricular clubs

Black Horse Hill Pledge (see p7)

Learning about the language and culture of China (Year 2)

Strong partnerships with parents and carers are in place so that the learning that takes place in school can continue at home.

Impact of the Curriculum

As a result of our well thought-out and planned curriculum, pupils should develop detailed knowledge, vocabulary and skills across the curriculum and as a result achieve well in comparison to their peers both locally and nationally.

The impact of the curriculum is regularly monitored through learning walks, lesson observations, the collection and evaluation of attainment data, comparing standards of learning across subjects, internal and external moderation, pupil and parent voice and involvement of external professionals who can quality assure our work.

At Black Horse Hill Infant School we aim high! We believe our children possess unique talents, skills and qualities. As such they all have a right to succeed, the right to recognise their own greatness and the right to understand how they can make a difference in our community and the world.

Black Horse Hill Infant School



We want all our children to be confident, happy, creative and compassionate learners who have experienced a wide range of opportunities and activities linked to our British values. To ensure this, we have written a set of pledges so all our children can access rich experiences which will help develop their understanding of our world.

Our Pledge to the Children

During your time at our school we will:

- Learn outside whenever possible
- Find out about animals by visiting the zoo and farm
- Go to the local library
- Visit a Museum
- Go to an Art Gallery
- Experience and use modern technology
- Attend a live performance/concert
- Meet a person who can widen your understanding of the world
- Perform to an audience
- Have an assembly in a place of worship
- Learn about different cultures and festivals around the world
- Enrich your understanding of Wirral and where we live by visiting the coast, gardens and parks.
- Contribute to charity work
- Find out about ways to help our planet
- Learn to speak a different language
- Grow plants, flowers and vegetables
- Meet children from other schools