



Newlands Junior School

We are Proud

Our school motto “We Are Proud” is displayed through the whole range of curriculum subjects and extra-curricular activities and events with a varied range of learning opportunities, in and out of the classroom, within and beyond the school day.

Aims

We deliver The National Curriculum alongside our personalised objectives and as such our **aims** are:

- To develop successful life-long learners who strive to make progress and achieve their best
- To develop confident individuals who are able to lead safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- To develop responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to their school, their community and the wider world.

Principles

In order to achieve these aims we are a totally inclusive school where the following **principles** are adopted

1. We provide a caring, stimulating and enjoyable environment in which our children can feel safe and secure and where they can develop spiritual awareness, confidence and self-esteem.
2. We encourage our children’s growing independence and sense of responsibility for their own health, well-being, actions and behaviour, demonstrating respect and concern for others and the environment.
3. We prepare children to adapt to the changing world around them by being able to respond to different challenges, new technology and developing a willingness to engage in continued learning.
4. We help pupils lay the foundations towards becoming literate, numerate, enterprising citizens, able to contribute to and communicate effectively in today’s diverse society.
5. We provide effective teaching through a broad and balanced curriculum acknowledging the need to provide for a variety of learning styles.
6. We promote a positive and enthusiastic attitude where high standards are expected and success is aspired to and celebrated.
7. We meet the needs of every child by providing enriching opportunities both within and beyond the curriculum to develop their practical, creative and imaginative potentials.
8. We value our parents/carers and the wider community as partners in the education of children and encourage their involvement in all aspects of school life.
9. We continue to develop professionally and manage the school effectively to the maximum benefit of the whole school community.

Our Curriculum

We have built our Curriculum around topics which will captivate and inspire children to develop good learning behaviours preparing them well for secondary school and for all children to become lifelong learners.

The Characteristics of Effective Learning are

Through investigating and exploring: referring to how children

- research and find out new things
- use what they know in their learning
- are willing to have a go and persist

Through active learning: referring to how children

- are motivated by their learning
- how they concentrate and persevere
- how they enjoy achieving what they set out to do

By creating and thinking critically: referring to how children

- have their own ideas
- use and apply what they already know to learn new things
- initiate and choose new ways to do things

We ensure a high level of learner involvement in choosing their own way of working so that children think deeply, ask questions and reflect on what they have learned, becoming more resourceful, creative, reflective and independent.

To achieve this, teachers often carry out a prior learning challenge to find out what children already know about the area to be studied and what misconceptions they may have. They then plan according to the needs of the class.

The topics are based around the skills and sticky knowledge children need to be studying, alongside what they already know, and what they would now like to find out more about or get better at. It is essential to us that the learning makes sense to the children, is motivating and interesting whilst developing creativity, skills and knowledge.

Our curriculum is continually evolving and changing to meet the needs and interests of different groups of pupils whilst also ensuring that the essential skills and content are taught in each year group.

Continuity and progression is ensured through our curriculum documents which are used to ensure there is support for all learners as well as additional challenge for the more-able.

English, mathematics and ICT skills are applied throughout our curriculum as well as being taught independently.

We build in time for children to reflect and feedback to others about what they have learned. Children present back their learning to the rest of the class or another audience, making the most of their oracy and ICT skills to do this.

We aim for our curriculum to increase and develop children's knowledge and understanding about their local area as it changes and develops and from a historical perspective. We facilitate children to understand that they have a voice and that they can influence change, personally, within, and beyond school.

Social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is deeply embedded throughout our curriculum, linking work together in a cohesive way and throughout school, we actively promote British Values.

Our curriculum is broad and extends beyond individual classrooms through the strong school ethos of cooperation and effective relationships, which encourage pupils to have a voice, and to respect all faiths, races, cultures, disabilities and differences.

The effectiveness of learning within the curriculum is based on high expectations of good behaviour and hard work.