



HIGHBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Statement

Highbury Primary and Nursery School's mission is:

- To be an inclusive, safe and caring community where each member is equally valued and nurtured to develop their potential.
- To achieve academic excellence by ensuring each pupil performs to the best of their ability.
- To work together as a team with parents and carers within the community to promote respect responsibility for the benefit of all.

SMSC

Social, moral, spiritual and cultural education is the core of our curriculum and is developed through a whole range of approaches from our school values, including: restorative behaviour approach, lunch club, nurture, PE, Forest School, lessons and frequent visits to places of worship. British Values form part of this central curriculum pillar.

PROVISION FOR THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM - SEE CURRICULUM MAP

Highbury Primary gives children full access to a broad and balanced curriculum as required by the National Curriculum, enabling them to achieve the highest academic and personal standards possible. As well as, providing them with the challenges and life skills they will need in order to take their place in modern British society. All children are supported to succeed, gaining self-esteem and confidence to become independent learners, who will develop a life-long love of learning and a willingness to engage in

philosophical enquiry, that promotes their ability to make safe informed decisions thus supporting the Prevent Agenda.

Children are encouraged to develop higher order thinking skills to deepen their understanding through the *Guy Claxton's* learning muscles. The development of English, Mathematics, Science, Computer skills and Religious Education is balanced with opportunities to learn about the humanities, physical development and the expressive arts. Equal value and recognition is given to pupils' strengths in all areas of the curriculum.

The curriculum is organised into themes that span a term or half a term. Each theme is based on a learning question to spark curiosity and a focus for children to plan their own lines of enquiry. The classroom environment is adapted to provide an immersive environment from which to learn. Individual subjects are carefully intertwined to create seamless learning. The end products of these themes are shared with friends and family, for example our Christmas Nativity as the culmination of our 'Celebration' theme.

THE ENRICHED CURRICULUM OPPORTUNITIES - SEE OUR ENRICHED CURRICULUM OFFER

The experiences of children are enriched by a range of planned extra-curricular activities: including after-school clubs, off-site visits and outside visitors/speakers as well as opportunities for children to develop their wider social awareness through our disability workshops, enterprise activity weeks and E-Safety training sessions. Our weekly Highbury University gives our children choice of a large range of subjects to study in depth, such as pet care, jewellery making, outdoor discovery. Fortnightly Forest School further adds to this breadth.

FORMING & EXPRESSING VIEWS

Highbury supports Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child acknowledging that children should be encouraged to form and express their own views. This is encouraged through Highbury University voting for a Pupil Parliament, Eco Council, class monitors and reading ambassadors. Pupil led learning is being increasingly developed across the whole curriculum.

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

Foundation subjects are studied through Themes. Each year group studies between 3 and 6 themes per year. Themes are selected for the opportunities they provide for developing children's knowledge, skills and understanding of subjects and for their potential to offer cross-curricular links with our core texts. Religious Education involves learning about Christianity as well as other religions. Comparative religious study gives children an opportunity to learn about other cultures and faiths promoting

respect and tolerance. This learning is reinforced in Collective Worship with parents; additionally children of other faiths and none share their personal experiences.

COMPUTING & PROGRAMMING

Computing and programming is taught using a range of resources and our youngest children, are introduced to programming, using elementary programmable toys. Older children are taught about programming and de-bugging with a particular emphasis on 'E-safety' training, to ensure children use the internet safely and knowledgeably. Pupils are encouraged to follow their own lines of enquiry in a self-learning area and within their themes

MUSIC

Music covers all areas of the primary music curriculum and is taught by class teachers and music specialists, who provide opportunities for pupils to learn instruments and perform in public wherever appropriate. There are opportunities to take part in rock bands and individual and group performances. Children are encouraged to listen to and enjoy music of all genres.

ART

Art is taught by class teachers, who link the art curriculum closely, to the theme work. In addition, three weeks each year are dedicated to the Creative Arts, when a range of products are developed, for example our stone path and large outdoor paintings. Children's work is celebrated throughout the school in displays and some is published more widely especially through competitions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education is taught daily by specialist sports coaches. Games are taught with an emphasis on transferable skills, decision making, effort, team-work and fair-play, so that children are well prepared for competitive matches against other schools. After-school clubs are available to create opportunities for children to try different sports and activities; targeting all abilities and interests. We regularly participate in sports events and festivals with other schools in our local area. We promote physical activity across the school day and healthy eating, as a way of life, to help tackle obesity and contribute to young people's physical, mental, emotional health and all-round wellbeing.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE

A specialist French-speaker teaches French weekly across the school, through other subjects to make it purposeful. They also learn about aspects of the French culture. For example, in our 'Space' theme children learn about planets and days of the week.

Children are also encouraged to learn Spanish, Mandarin and German through extra-curriculum club and during cultural languages week.

PSHE / P4C

This may be taught weekly or in blocks based on planned areas of development and in response to issues that come up within classes, the locality and globally. As a Navy city, the children may learn about 'Help the Heroes,' or refugees during the Syrian crisis. Closer to home railway and road safety are essential for personal safety. For younger children crossing the road is essential, whilst our eldest pupils all take part in cycling proficiencies so they can cycle to school. Annually children participate in 'Walk to School,' to increase road safety.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITY

Every teacher has responsibility for an area of the curriculum and is accountable for standards in that subject. Teachers look for cross-curricular links to other subjects wherever possible so that learning is meaningful and children can make connections that enhance their understanding.

PARENT INFORMATION

Parents can obtain more information about the curriculum by visiting the school, by talking to teachers or by looking at the curriculum sections on our school website.