



Curriculum Policy

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Lead Person(s): R. Dyer, Headteacher

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Policy Author: R. Dyer, Headteacher

Our curriculum

We are committed to providing quality and excellence through an exciting, stimulating environment that stretches and develops the child as a whole and to provide an education that will develop social skills and encourage children to become more active citizens within the school community and beyond. The Creative Curriculum at Burdett-Coutts Primary School encompasses all core and foundation subjects and enables us to provide a high standard of teaching and learning.

Our curriculum aims to:

- Provide a broad and balanced programme
- Increase children's motivation, enthusiasm and engagement in their learning by making learning meaningful through putting it into a context
- Help children to become more independent and take greater ownership of their learning, develop their confidence and motivation to learn through the use of a range of teaching and learning styles
- Establish strong cross curricular links to ensure a broader understanding
- Provide enrichment opportunities where learning and teaching can take place beyond the classroom
- Provide opportunities to apply knowledge and learning in practical ways and solve problems in a variety of situations
- Provide a creative approach to planning and delivery that will incorporate and embed key aspects of the National Curriculum.



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Teaching of Phonics and Reading

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 follow the *Read Write Inc.* scheme of work for Phonics and Reading. Read Write Inc. Phonics is a comprehensive literacy programme designed to get children reading and writing quickly, while ensuring that phonics is not taught in isolation. The key features of Read Write Inc. are initial and on-going assessment tracking every child's progress, children grouped by ability so they learn rapidly at the right level and partner work meaning every child participates in the whole lesson. This ensures that every child gains accuracy, fluency and a good understanding of the text they are reading.

Early Years

Our Early Years curriculum follows Development Matters.

The themes and principles that underpin how we work together for children in EYFS are:

- Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
- Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
- Children learn and develop well in enabling environments in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents/carers.
- Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in Early Years provision including children with Special Educational Needs and disabilities.

The areas of learning and development are:

Prime Areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (including Making relationships, Self – confidence and self-awareness and Managing feelings and behaviour)
- Physical Development (including Moving and Handling and Health and self-care)
- Communication and Language (including Listening and attention, Understanding and Speaking).

Specific Areas:

- Literacy (including Reading and Writing)
- Mathematics (Number and Shape, space and measure)



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- Understanding the World (People and communities, The world and Technology)
- Expressive Arts and Design (Exploring and using media and materials and Being imaginative).

Mathematics

We follow a highly structured programme of daily lessons following the National Strategy's Primary Framework for Numeracy allowing children to progress from concrete experiences to abstract concepts at an appropriate pace. Importance is given to the relevance of mathematical understanding and its use in practical situations.

Children are involved in mental mathematics, problem solving activities, mathematical projects, computational skills and the use of mathematical skills in other curriculum areas. When appropriate your child will use a calculator to support their mathematical development. Computer programmes are also used to generate and reinforce mathematical concepts. Mathematics continues to be applied in other areas of the curriculum e.g. measuring in science and DT, using shape and pattern in art and collecting and presenting data in history, geography and ICT.

In each year group, units of work are taught in the following areas of mathematics:

Key Stage 1 & 2

- Number & Place Value
- Addition & Subtraction
- Multiplication & Division
- Fractions
- Measurement
- Geometry - properties of shapes
- Geometry - Position & Direction
- Statistics - from Year 2 onwards

Key Stage 2

- Decimals
- Percentages
- Ratio & Proportion
- Algebra



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English

Children are taught to develop and enjoy writing from Nursery. Throughout the school writing is focused on quality (fiction and non-fiction) texts that the children learn to explore, appreciate and use as a route to improving their own writing. As they progress through the school, children are taught to write in a range of genres and to use a variety of literary techniques to engage their audience.

Speaking and listening

Speaking and listening forms the backbone to the English Curriculum and as well as learning to tell stories and recite poems, drama opportunities allow the children to express their ideas verbally and to listen to their peers.

Spelling

Spelling is first introduced through phonics and the Read, Write Inc. scheme which begins in the Foundation Stage. Children learn the initial letter phonemes and graphemes. They then explore more complex graphemes and from KS1 children start to investigate different spelling patterns whilst exploring the etymology of words.

Handwriting

All classes, from Nursery to Year 6, follow the Penpals handwriting schemes. The children are taught to form their letters in the 'Sassoon' font. Letter formations are taught in Reception and the cursive script is introduced from the middle of Year 1.

Parents

Parents are informed about the curriculum through termly newsletters and Parents 'meet and greet' sessions at the beginning of each academic year. Each year we also run a series of workshops for parents to provide information about how Reading and Maths is taught throughout the school.