

# **Chantry Community Primary School Curriculum**

September 2014 saw a new National Curriculum in England and this brought exciting and significant change to the curriculum at Chantry. Teachers have worked hard to develop a new curriculum that is tailored to meet the needs of our pupils, our school and to reflect the local area in which we live.

## **English**

A wide range of learning experiences enables our children to develop skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Literacy lessons take place on a daily basis.

From the Foundation Stage onwards children read regularly in the classroom, choosing from a large selection of quality books and are given every opportunity to become confident, fluent readers and to develop a love of reading.

Phonic skills are taught systematically in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 on a daily basis. We use a range of phonic strategies including the 'Letters and Sounds' and 'Jolly Phonics' schemes of work. This work continues into Key Stage 2, placing more emphasis on higher order reading and spelling strategies. Throughout the school, children are also taught to use context clues, grammatical knowledge and word recognition skills.

The children are offered many opportunities to write for different purposes and audiences, and we aim to foster creativity and personal expression. Good habits of letter formation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are also central to the school's English work. Through whole class writing pupils will be taught to develop their written skills in various genres.

We use The Power of Reading website to select quality books to develop our English lessons around and use the same books in key stage two for our whole class reading lessons where we develop children's comprehension skills.

Our handwriting scheme is intended to support children in developing a legible joined style.

## **Maths**

Children take part in a mathematics lesson each day. We attach great importance to the development of both mental and practical mathematics as well as developing children's reasoning skills.

From the time children enter our school we aim to give them mathematical experiences from which they derive pleasure and enjoyment. In promoting this positive attitude we

are able to teach the necessary skills and basic facts at the appropriate stages. Through enquiry and investigation we develop children's understanding of mathematics and their awareness of its uses in the world beyond the classroom.

## **Science**

In key stage one, science is taught through a 'Learning Journey' style approach with links to other subjects, for example mathematics, technology and art. This is not so easy in key stage two and is often taught as a discrete subject. Children's natural curiosity is harnessed by providing 'hands on' experiences, which form the basis for scientific investigations. Skills in observing, predicting, hypothesising, measuring, communicating, obtaining and analysing evidence are developed from Foundation Stage onwards.

## **Computing**

At the heart of school's new computing curriculum is the aim of preparing children for the real world with a secure understanding of E-Safety issues. The children will be taught about using a range of text and multimedia resources, about data handling as well as 'Technology in our Lives'.

There is now a sharper focus on programming or coding. This builds from our youngest children in Foundation Stage working with toys they can control electronically, into Key Stage 1 when the children will develop their understanding of the logical way computers work. In Key stage 1 the children will also start to write simple instructions or algorithms on the computer and this will progress into more complex approaches in Key Stage 2. We will be looking for children to demonstrate their ability to work logically, be able to deconstruct algorithms and also to work creatively to overcome problems.

## **Religious Education**

Our school ethos is powerfully shaped by the importance we accord to moral and spiritual development, which we encourage in every way possible. Religious education is given to all pupils in accordance with the Education Reform Act 1988 and the East Sussex County Council Agreed Syllabus. Parents should be aware that the law states that an act of worship must be wholly or mainly Christian in its nature.

The RE syllabus is multicultural and non-denominational. The main Christian festivals are studied in all year groups and a proportion of children's learning will be drawn from Christianity. We teach R.E. throughout the year but add a focused learning journey at key times, e.g. Christmas and Easter.

Daily assemblies are held, during which an act of collective worship takes place; this may be in the form of a whole school, year group or class assembly. Children's achievements are also celebrated regularly.

The School has developed strong links with our local church St Peter's, and regular visits take place to integrate our pupils into the local community. We are always pleased to hold two key events at the Church each year.

Parents who do not wish their children to be taught the agreed syllabus, or to take part in the short acts of worship which are held at school, should let us know so that their children can be excused, and alternative arrangements made.

## **PSHE – please see the separate tab for PSHE**

### **Physical Education**

At Chantry we promote a healthy and active lifestyle for all our pupils; Physical Education plays an important part of this ethos. Pupils are taught key skills in Dance, Gymnastics, Outdoor Sports and Team Games. We have used our Sports' Funding to enhance our P.E. curriculum by engaging a Sports' Coach from Premier Sports to work with teachers to develop both the teachers' and pupils' skills. P.E lessons take place both in our school hall and in the outside play area.

Competitive sport is promoted within the context of a supportive learning environment. Premier Sport run additional sports' session both before school and after school.

### **Arts & Humanities**

Art, design technology, history and geography form the basis of our exciting and inspiring learning journeys. They are designed to motivate children through linking two or three subjects together and often include English when a solid link can be forged.

Our approach is to provide children with a rich, broad curriculum that develops key skills for life and to use the local environment to develop their understanding of the importance of the World around them

Our aim is to make our learning journeys as interactive and hands-on as possible with an expectation that children will enjoy investigating and questioning to extend their own learning. The development of key skills underpins all our learning journeys.

### **Music**

Music forms part of our Arts' Curriculum and can be taught discretely or as part of a learning journey. We use the Charanga website to support the teaching of music throughout key stage one and two. In Year Four the class begin to learn to play the recorder and this is continued in Year Five by the East Sussex Music Service. We

welcome East Sussex peripatetic music teachers who teach a range of musical instruments.