



**JUNIOR SCHOOL
CURRICULUM HANDBOOK**

INTRODUCTION

The curriculum is broad and designed to allow pupils to fulfill their potential. It meets the requirements of the New UK Primary National Curriculum, whilst also encompassing additional elements that we feel are essential to a good, all round education and relevant to our cultural context. Great emphasis is placed on Literacy, Writing and Numeracy with each child also studying Science, Geography, History, Religious Education, Music, Art, French, Computing and PE. Personal, Social & Health Education is covered by Form Tutors. Individual Music tuition is available as an extra.

From Reception to Year 2 the children spend a large proportion of time with their Class Teachers but receive specialist tuition in Music, French, Information Technology & PE. At the end of Year 2, pupils take the Key Stage 1 examinations. In Years 3 to 4, the children divide most of their lessons between two Class Teachers, one focused on Maths & Science and the other on English & Humanities. They receive specialist tuition in Music, French, Information Technology & PE.

The subject summaries included in this booklet give a brief overview of topics covered during each term. More detailed information is available from the Director of Studies or Sectional Heads.

Reception

Each Reception Class is made up of 20 children, led by Class/Specialist Teachers with Teaching Assistants. It is open to children of 4 years of age and it offers a transition between Nursery and Class One. Children are gently introduced to a school day with assemblies and set play times. Emphasis is placed on developing each individual through the experience of a wide variety of different stimuli. The development of language skills through conversation, drama, singing, interactive activities and books is a strong feature of our work. Our programme spans the 7 Areas of Learning & Development outlined in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework: Communication and Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social & Emotional Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts & Design.

We assess their attainment of expected levels using Early Learning Goals (ELG's) set out in these aforementioned areas.

Key Stage 1

This follows the core guidelines set down in the new UK Primary National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 so that all children are fully prepared for their Key Stage 1 assessments in the Summer Term of Year 2. However, we are not constrained by the National Curriculum and offer teaching beyond and outside its boundaries depending on the ability and individual needs of your child. We endeavor to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to ensure your child reaches his/her full potential in all areas of development.

The curriculum is divided into seven broad areas:

- **Literacy and Language Development**
This encompasses talking, listening, reading and writing and consequently embraces all other core areas.
- **Numeracy**
Computation, problem solving, mental agility and thematic work with an emphasis on practical application form the basis of our daily mathematics lessons.
- **Science**
This includes physical science, environmental science and health education.
- **French Language**
Focus is mainly on building vocabulary through oral work and enjoying the language through song, dance & games.
- **Computing**
Computing is a developing area of the curriculum. The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming
- **Humanities**
This encompasses history, geography, religious education as well as personal, social & health education.
- **Physical Education**
Children cover a range of physical activities, including PE, and games (in Year 2) which are taught by specialist teachers.
- **Arts**
Music, dance, drama, art and design, poetry and literature are all part of the programme we offer

Year 3

This is an important transitional year where the children are encouraged to become more independent and responsible. Much of the school day is shared between two Class Teachers, one focused on Maths & Sciences and the other on English & Humanities. A great emphasis is placed on the traditional skills of reading, writing and numeracy. Environmental studies, which include science, history and geography, are topic based. There are strong cross-curricular links between these subjects and Art & IT. The children visit other teachers for French, PE, Music and IT.

Year 4

As with Year 3, much of the school day is shared between two Class Teachers, one focused on Maths & Sciences and the other on English & Humanities. A great emphasis is placed on the traditional skills of reading, writing and numeracy. Environmental studies, which include science, history and geography, are topic based. There are strong cross-curricular links between these subjects and Art & IT. The children visit other teachers for French, PE, Music and IT.