



Elmwood Junior School

Curriculum statement

Intent

Elmwood is a diverse and multi-cultural school where pupils' personal development and well-being are central to our ethos. Every pupil is valued and their unique qualities are recognised, nurtured and celebrated. Lessons are creative and inspiring and encourage a love of learning in pupils. At Elmwood we work together to ensure each pupil reaches their full potential. Pupil voice is highly valued and we work in partnership with parents and carers to develop personal, social, moral, spiritual and cultural well-being. High expectations for all our pupils enable them to become resilient, independent, confident and successful life-long learners.

Big ideas



Humankind

Understanding what it means to be human and how human behaviour has shaped the world.



Nature

Understanding the complexities of the plant and animal species that inhabit the world.



Processes

Understanding the many dynamic and physical processes that shape the world.



Place

Understanding the visual, cultural, social, and environmental aspects of places around the world.



Creativity

Understanding the creative process and how everyday and exceptional creativity can shape the world.



Comparison

Understanding how and why things are the same or different.



Investigation

Understanding the importance of investigation and how this has led to significant change in the world.



Significance

Understanding why significant people, places, events and inventions matter and how they have shaped the world.



Materials

Understanding the properties of all matter, living and non-living.



Change

Understanding why and how things have changed over time.

☆ General principles

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- explore the breadth and depth of the national curriculum
- develop new skills through a variety of interesting contexts
- experience the challenge and enjoyment of learning
- develop and demonstrate their creativity

Purpose

We aim to meet the needs of all pupils through a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum that encourages academic success. We also provide opportunities for pupils to experience a sense of achievement through sport, the creative arts and the use of technology which is central to the school's successful philosophy of developing self-esteem.

SMSC/FBV

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- Spiritual - Explore beliefs, experience and faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity and reflect on experiences
- Moral - Recognise right and wrong and respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues and offer reasoned views
- Social - Use a range of social skills to participate in the local community and beyond; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict
- Cultural - Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity

Purpose

Our aims, for all pupils, are to provide opportunities for them to achieve and to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Thus preparing all pupils for the opportunities and responsibilities of life. We deliver high quality PSHE lessons which allow pupils to engage with relevant and imperative subjects/issues.

✓ Well-being

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- develop self-esteem and confidence in their abilities
- learn in a peaceful and supportive environment
- learn how to respect themselves and others
- build respectful relationships

Purpose

Well-being is at the forefront of everything that we do at Elmwood Junior School. Our school values and ethos are embedded in the statement: 'Learning together, achieving together, bringing out the best in everyone'. Our curriculum enables children to build self-esteem, explore their values and attitudes and make informed decisions that affect their lives. It gives them an opportunity to develop their social skills, including assertiveness and negotiation, which is used in other areas of their everyday lives.

🧑 Pupil voice

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- make a positive contribution to the school and local community
- make choices about things that are important to them
- express their opinions on a range of different topics and issues
- say what they like and dislike about their learning experiences

Purpose

Pupil voice is central to our ethos. As a Rights Respecting School (Unicef GOLD 2019), the UN convention 'rights of the child' are at the centre of our curriculum. Teaching and learning about rights for the whole community is a central part of the journey to becoming a rights respecting citizen. Our pupils develop a strong sense of social justice and knowledge of local and global issues from a rights perspective. The School Council at Elmwood Junior School is made up of representatives from each class and aims to encourage pupils to have responsibility for the way things work and develop at school.

◀◀◀◀ Pedagogy

Our curriculum will be taught through a pedagogy that:

- promotes problem solving, creativity and communication
- enables and fosters pupil's natural curiosity
- excites, promotes and sustains pupil's interest
- enables pupils to reflect on and evaluate their own learning

Purpose

At Elmwood Junior School we believe in the concept of lifelong learning and the notion that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone; it should be fun! Through our teaching we equip pupils with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices. We believe that inspirational teaching and learning experiences help pupils lead happy and rewarding lives.

🌱 Enrichment

We will enrich our curriculum by:

- providing on and off-site subject or topic related activities
- holding specialist curriculum days or weeks
- offering opportunities for pupils to learn outdoors
- developing partnerships with external providers that extend pupil's opportunities for learning

Purpose

At Elmwood we are able to offer a diverse range of extra-curricular activities. Clubs are important in order to extend pupil's learning, as well as developing new skills. We believe it is essential that there are opportunities to discover different interests and improve individual talents and all our pupils are encouraged to participate. Our clubs are run by teachers and learning support assistants using their expertise to create interactive and engaging experiences. The clubs enable the pupils to take part in competitions, performances, concerts and much more. This provides an opportunity to interact with peers across the school which strengthens the school community. Clubs are accessible to all our pupils as they run before school, at lunch time as well as after school.