

Our Curriculum

In order to meet the aims of our Curriculum Intent, we teach in a cross curricular way. The curriculum is reviewed 6 x year and planned to ensure that we meet the needs of our changing cohort. The Curriculum Intent is used as our reviewing and planning tool.

We follow the National Curriculum and aim to engage our pupils as much as possible as we recognise that for many, their previous school histories will have resulted in them becoming disaffected learners. We know that our pupils have varied learning styles and believe that they should experience a wide and rich curriculum.

We teach English and Maths most mornings as we recognise that this is the time of day that our pupils may be the most settled and better able to learn. . We have a big emphasis upon reading. Our pupils read from a wide range of books which are in all classes and our library. Some of our older learners use the Dockside Reading Scheme. Our phonics scheme is Letters and Sounds.

The Lexia and Mathletics IT programmes support all learners to further develop their reading, spelling and number skills.

Science may be taught across a whole day every 3 x weeks rather than a weekly subject as we believe that our pupils learn best when they can make immediate links over a longer time frame. The foundation subjects are mostly taught in the afternoons.

PSHE is a strand that runs throughout the day and makes up a large part of our informal curriculum – eg playtimes are considered to be times when pupils have the opportunity to learn about friendships, emotional resilience and fitness etc.

Religious Education is linked in with our cross curricular teaching and is also taught in assemblies. The Spinnaker Trust deliver Christian themed assemblies.

Computing is taught as a separate subject , but also used to link in with English, Maths and other subjects.

PE is supported by the Coach from Moving Matters –paid for by the Sports Grant. Swimming is also part of our curriculum. Refer to the Sports Grant .

Music is taught by a visiting teacher once a week (djembe drums, learning how to play the drum kit and ukuleles) and classes also showcase their talents via performances. We also have weekly singing assemblies.

Art and History/Geography elements are taken from the National Curriculum and link in with the topic.

Food technology is one of our most popular subjects and is a good way of combining English, Maths and Science.