

# Moon Hall School, Reigate Curriculum Policy

<b>Governor responsibility</b>	Full Governing Body
<b>Governor lead</b>	Chair of Governors
<b>Status &amp; review cycle</b>	Statutory Annual
<b>Policy details (date &amp; version)</b>	March 2018 Version i
<b>Next review date</b>	April 2019

**Legal Status:**

- Regulatory Requirements, the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2014

**Applies to:**

- Whole School

**Related Documents in support of the Curriculum Policy:**

- School aims & ethos
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
- Teaching and learning related policies eg E-safety
- Curriculum planning
- EAL (English as an additional language)

**Available from:**

- This Policy is available to parents on the School website, to staff from there or on the School intranet or a copy can be requested.

**Monitoring and Review:**

- To be continuously monitored and reviewed by the Headmistress, Senior Management Team and the Chair of Governors.
- The Chair of Governors and Headmistress will formally review this policy by no later than two years from the date on front cover, or earlier if changes in legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

## 1. Introduction

Our curriculum includes all of the planned activities that we organise in order to promote and enhance our pupils' learning; including their academic achievement and personal development. Our provision includes the National Curriculum of England as well as the broad range of extra-curricular activities which enrich the experience of our children. We believe that it is important to promote British values through all aspects of our taught curriculum and pastoral care. We aim to teach children how to develop into positive, responsible people, who co-operate with others whilst developing their knowledge, skills and understanding. We aim for our curriculum to meet the individual learning needs of each of our pupils, this includes those children who have English as an additional language.

The following areas of learning and experience are woven into the curriculum through our programmes of study and schemes of work; including Forest School and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (which is a voluntary extra-curricular option for our senior pupils).

### ***Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural***

This area of the curriculum aims to develop the pupils' ability to understand, accept and reflect positively on the British cultural heritage and how that has developed within a multi-culture society to include the meaning of faith and belief and the importance of tolerance of the faiths, beliefs and cultures of others; on the importance of honesty in all aspects of life and of the distinction between right and wrong both in their own behaviour and the behaviour of others; and on the positive contribution they can and are expected to make in society in furtherance of these values.

### ***Linguistic***

This area is concerned with developing pupils' communication skills and increasing their command of language through listening, speaking, reading and writing. We are particularly keen to teach and embed strategies which our dyslexic pupils can use to support their linguistic development. Our aim is for all our pupils to be able to apply the use of English proficiently across the curriculum. For those pupils where English is an additional language, we provide the individual support required to enable them to access learning and make expected progress. Reference our EAL policy.

### ***Mathematical***

This area helps pupils to make calculations, to understand and appreciate relationships and patterns in number and space and to develop their capacity to think logically and express themselves clearly. Their knowledge and understanding of Mathematics should be developed in a variety of ways, including practical activity, exploration and discussion. We are particularly keen to teach and embed strategies which our dyscalculic pupils can use to support

their numerical development. Our aim is for all our pupils to be able to apply the use of maths proficiently across the curriculum.

### ***Scientific***

This area is concerned with increasing pupils' knowledge and understanding of nature, materials and forces and with developing the skills associated with Science as a process of enquiry: for example, observing, forming hypotheses, conducting experiments and recording their findings.

### ***Technological & computing***

Technological skills can include information and communication technology (ICT); developing, planning and communicating ideas; working with tools, equipment, materials and components to produce good quality products and evaluating processes and products. In addition, we use this area to introduce a variety of learning support strategies and skills such as touch typing.

### ***Human and Social***

This area is concerned with people and with their environment, and how human action, now and in the past, has influenced events and conditions. Generally, the subjects of History and Geography make a strong contribution to this area. In our school our topic based PSHCE, alongside our knowledge and understanding of the world which includes careers, also makes a strong contribution to this area.

### ***Physical***

This area aims to develop the pupils' physical control and co-ordination as well as their tactical skills and imaginative responses, and to help them to evaluate and improve their performance. We aim to particularly support and develop the co-ordination and movement of our pupils with dyspraxia. Pupils should also acquire knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of fitness and health. We use this area to develop and apply pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding of language and numeracy. Pupils should be encouraged to understand the nature of team effort, perseverance and resilience in a competitive environment.

### ***Aesthetic and Creative***

These areas are concerned with the processes of making, composing and inventing. There are aesthetic and creative aspects in all subjects, but some make a particularly strong contribution, including art, music, dance, drama, design technology, and the study of literature, because they call for personal, imaginative, and often practical, responses.

## 2. Values

- 2.1. Our school curriculum is underpinned by the values stated in the 'Every Child Matters' document and by those stated in the Regulations. The curriculum is the means by which the school achieves its objective of educating children in the knowledge, skills and understanding that they need in order to lead fulfilling lives and succeed as adults.
- 2.2. We actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- 2.3. We actively promote an approach to education which:
  - (a) Enables pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
  - (b) Instils in pupils the importance of honesty in all aspects of life and which enables pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the English civil and criminal law.
  - (c) teaches pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour;
  - (d) encourages pupils to show initiative and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and their homes as well as to society more generally;
  - (e) enables pupils to acquire a broad knowledge of and respect for the public institutions and services in England and the UK;
  - (f) by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures, furthers tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions;
  - (g) encourages respect for other people, having particular regard for the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010;
  - (h) encourages respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in Great Britain.
- 2.4. Where political issues are taught, discussed or otherwise brought to the attention of pupils in school or in any extra-curricular activity, the School will preclude the promotion of partisan political views and take reasonable practical steps to ensure a balanced presentation of opposing views. We will fully support and implement all guidance and legislation within the Prevent strategy.

2.5. Our school is in full agreement with the values stated in the National Curriculum documents both Primary and Secondary. These are the main values of our school, upon which we have based our curriculum:

- We value the way in which all children are unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures. We are able to provide a high level of support for those children with English as an additional language. We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth.
- We value the importance of each person in our school and the wider society. We organise our curriculum so that we promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community.
- We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We aim to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school.
- We value our environment, and we aim, through our curriculum, to teach respect for our world, and how we should care for it for future generations, as well as our own.

### 3. **Aims and objectives**

The aims of our school curriculum are:

- to enable pupils to achieve functional (or significantly better than that) speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills, this includes those children who are EAL;
- to enable our pupils to be independent learners, who have had the opportunity to develop higher order thinking skills including problem solving
- to promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that children enjoy coming to school, and acquire a strong foundation on which to develop learning;
- to teach children proficient use of information technology (including to support their own independent learning) and scientific process;
- to enable pupils to access education to GCSE and where appropriate vocational courses eg BTec;
- to enable all children to identify and develop their individual talents and skills to the best of their ability;
- to enable children to move on to future destinations eg Further Education college to match their aspirations or re-integrate into mainstream education and to be well prepared for the move;
- to instil in pupils a positive work ethic with an understanding of what to expect and what is expected of them in the workplace when they come to choose their career, assisting them in understanding the choices they can make and the preparation needed;

- to enable our pupils to be creative, use initiative and to develop their own critical thinking;
- to teach our pupils about their developing world, including how their environment and society have changed over time as well as the underlying scientific knowledge;
- to help them understand Britain's cultural heritage and the importance of the British values;
- to enable children to make a positive contribution as global citizens;
- to instil in pupils the importance of being honest, of being able to distinguish between right and wrong in their own behaviour and that of others, and the importance of being confident and mature enough to decline inducements by "friends" or others to act or join in actions they know or believe to be wrong;
- to teach pupils to have an awareness of their own spiritual development, to be inquisitive and to think things through for themselves;
- to help pupils understand the importance of fairness and fair play in all aspects of life;
- to enable pupils to have respect for themselves, confidence in their ability and high self-esteem, and to live and work co-operatively with others.
- to enable our pupils to graduate with all the grounding they need to go on to a worthwhile, happy and rewarding adult life as respected citizens who will make a positive contribution to society and of whom their parents and those who educated them will be proud;
- where a pupil has a statement of special educational needs or Education, Health and Care Plan, to fulfil the requirements of the statement/plan.

#### 4. **Organisation and planning**

- 4.1. We plan our curriculum in three phases. We agree a long-term plan based on the National Curriculum Schemes of Work for the Key Stage but reflecting the needs of our pupils. This indicates what topics are to be taught in each term.
- 4.2. We review our long-term plan on an annual basis. Medium term plans are submitted for approval to the Heads of Department who ensure that it is tailored to the Long Term Plan whilst responding to the needs of individual groups of pupils.
- 4.3. Our short-term plans are those that our teachers write on a weekly or daily basis. These include evaluation and reflection that allows teachers to modify plans to suit the needs of the pupils.
- 4.1. Our focus is on English/Literacy and Mathematics/Numeracy to allow pupils access the wider curriculum and apply their numerical and linguistic skills

## **5. Children with special needs**

- 5.1. The curriculum in our school is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend the school with specific attention to dyslexia and other identified learning needs. The annual review of this policy will include an evaluation by all teachers of the programmes of study taught including the options available for senior pupils and where appropriate we will adapt and modify our offering.
- 5.2. Almost all of our pupils have a Specific Learning Difficulty. Many have associated difficulties eg emotional needs. The curriculum is accordingly adapted and modified to respond to their needs. For example, in the choice and range of options given at key stage 4 we include vocational awards, which allow progression to further education.
- 5.3. The accurate assessment of our pupils is a key part to ensuring the quality of our curriculum provision. Our assessment arrangements which begin with the admission process, is carefully monitored on a regular basis by the Headmistress and senior team to ensure that all our pupils make a good rate of progress. Our system of assess, intervene and review is an integral part of our teaching and learning for every pupil.
- 5.4. The school provides an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) for every pupil. This has group targets (as pupils are taught in matched groups) as well as individual pastoral targets, where appropriate. We evaluate six monthly after standardised testing. ILPs are discussed with parents and pupils and asked to comment.
- 5.5. We are well aware that all children need the support of parents and teachers to make good progress in school. We strive to build positive links with the parents of each child by keeping them informed about the way in which the children are being taught and how well each child is progressing.
- 5.6. We provide support for pupils' continuing education by providing careers advice. We make contact with FE & VIth Form Colleges especially their SEND Departments.

## **6. Core skills**

- 6.1. In our curriculum we emphasis the application of ICT, numerical and linguistic skills. All subject areas contribute to a child's progress in these skills. Our school believes that all children need to make good progress in these skill areas in order to develop to their true potential.

## **Junior school**

Our junior school is committed to providing a complete curriculum that promotes the academic, spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, emotional and physical development of every pupil. We aim to offer a curriculum that supports the strengths and learning styles of our pupils so they can achieve their potential. Our aim is to support each child's literacy and numeracy so that they are able to access the wider curriculum. To this end we provide a curriculum that emphasises English and Maths, but also includes; Science, ICT, Typing, History, Geography, RE, PHSE, Art, DT, Drama, Dancing, Music, Swimming and Games. A Forest School programme is also provided.

## **Moon Hall middle and senior school**

Moon Hall is committed to providing a complete curriculum that promotes the academic, spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, emotional and physical development of every pupil. We aim to offer a curriculum that supports the strengths and learning styles of our pupils so they can achieve their potential. We aim to engage and challenge pupils to foster a life-long love of learning for its own sake and provide them with a secure foundation on which to continue into 16-19 Education and on to careers of their choice.

Moon Hall School intends that all pupils experience linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative aspects of education. A unique feature of our modified curriculum is that we allow additional time for our pupils to focus on the development of their English language skills rather than require them to study MFL.

In Key Stages Three and Four, the MHSRR core curriculum of subjects provides the opportunity for pupils to acquire and apply skills in speaking and listening, literacy, numeracy and ICT (including touch typing).

### Key Stage Three (Years 7 – 9)

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Pupils study the MHSRR core curriculum and; History, Geography, Drama, RE, PHSE, Design Technology (Resistant Materials), Art, Music, Games and PE. In year 9, selected subjects begin their GCSE course early to prepare pupils for the move to key stage 4 study.

### Key Stage Four (Years 10 – 11)

Pupils study the MHSRR core curriculum to GCSE level. This includes English Language, Maths and Science (biology). Where appropriate, more able pupils can also select to study English Literature or dual award science. The ICT course is a vocational award specifically selected to meet the needs of our pupils. At present, there are GCSE options in History, Geography, DT Resistant Materials, Art, Business Studies, and Drama. A BTec qualification can be taken in Sport and Performing Arts. The School aims to offer any suitable course in which there is sufficient interest and demand.

## **Learning Difficulties and Disabilities, Special Educational Needs and Gifted & Talented**

We have an on-going Assessment system (internal & external) that tracks the Reading, Spelling and Numeracy of pupils throughout their time at Moon Hall School. We use this information along with input from teaching staff to meet the individual needs of each pupil through an ILP.

### **7. Monitoring and review**

The Headmistress is responsible for monitoring the quality of the school curriculum and the way it is implemented. Annual review and oversight of the curriculum are completed by the Deputy Head Academic, Heads of School, Heads of Department and subject leaders.

The Deputy Head Academic is responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the curriculum. The SMT monitor all aspects of teaching and learning including; work scrutiny, review of teacher planning to ensure that all classes fully meet the standards required for the National Curriculum.

Heads of Department monitor the way their subject is taught throughout the school. They examine long-term and medium-term planning, and ensure that appropriate teaching strategies are used and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives. Heads of Department also have responsibility for monitoring the way in which resources are stored and managed.