



Aspiring Ashwood

Curriculum

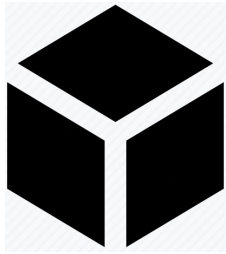
Curriculum Design

Intent



We endeavour to instil a deep moral compass within our children and ensure that they are aspirational, resilient, respectful and tolerant global citizens who have a life-long love of learning. We are passionate about promoting equality for all our pupils and supporting their mental wellbeing, physical health and social skill development. Our curriculum is underpinned by our DREAM values and is taught in such a way to promote critical, inquisitive thinking. With a book at its heart, creating a real passion and purpose for all learning, the curriculum ensures that children are ready for the next steps in education and prepares them for life beyond education. We understand and acknowledge the challenges faced within our community and work hard to provide enrichment opportunities that inspire, motivate and move learning on.

3D Structure



We deliver a strategically planned, 3-dimensional curriculum made up of knowledge, skills and concepts to be learned and understood. Our curriculum focuses on what a student will know (factually), understand (conceptually), and do (skillfully). We knit the knowledge, skills and conceptual understanding together as we know that children cannot understand at the conceptual level without the supporting facts and skills. A conceptual approach promotes inquiry which leads to intellectual engagement. The greater the amount of factual information, the greater the need to be able to strategically organise and process that information - conceptual understanding provides a sound understanding of which to 'hang' factual knowledge.

Global Themes



'We have to structure our curriculum in a way that makes remembering almost inevitable' (Clare Sealy 2019). Our curriculum has been designed to revisit and build on key concepts throughout the Ashwood Journey. This ensures that knowledge and skills contribute to core understandings and values. The 'Global Themes' are designed to be built upon each year, with a clear progression and links across subjects, so that the children will have a deeper understanding and ability to transfer their knowledge and skills to new contexts. The global themes that children explore and revisit across all year groups are:

- Identity, Diversity and Equality
- Transformations
- Significance
- Global Awareness and Sustainability
- Peace and Conflict
- Enterprise

Conceptual Lens



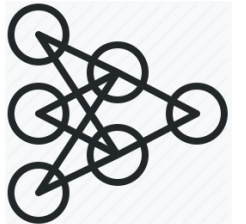
Each Global Theme is a conceptual lens. Knowledge for each subject has been carefully organised and prioritised to deepen the understanding of the concepts. The Global Themes are a 'coat hanger' on which to hang new knowledge. The conceptual lens uses an idea or concept to bring focus and depth to a topic, facilitating the transfer of understanding and ensuring that connected thinking between being able to know, do and understand. Children learn new knowledge and skills in each subject through the lens of a global theme. They make links and think deeply about the relationship. The conceptual lens allows the children to bring to the learning their previous knowledge and understanding of the global theme, so that we are not starting from scratch each time. It happens on purpose, we are not hoping it will happen by accident.

Drivers



History and geography are the drivers for the curriculum. This means, that every half term, the children will be learning either History or Geography in years 1-6. These subjects link directly to the global themes and the key concepts that our children encounter on their Ashwood journey. Science has been mapped out firstly with its links and contributions to the history and geography knowledge and progression, and then with the conceptual lenses in mind. Other foundation subjects have been carefully considered under each conceptual lens, and their links within topic areas of other subjects.

Links



The knowledge and understanding in all areas of our curriculum is clearly mapped out and progressive. Clear links between subject areas and within subjects have been carefully considered and this has determined the sequencing of our curriculum from Nursery until year 6. Our curriculum content links to our community and the children at Ashwood. The National Curriculum is built upon and is excelled in many ways. ([Link to exceeding NC](#)) ([Link curriculum sequencing](#))