

Teaching and Learning

Curriculum Statements of Intent

English

At Airedale Junior School we believe that a quality English curriculum should develop children's love of reading, writing and discussion. Our intent is to inspire an appreciation of rich and varied literature and a habit of reading widely and often. We recognise the importance of cultivating a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts. We want to inspire children to be confident in the arts of speaking and listening and who can use discussion to develop their learning. We believe that a thorough grasp of English skills are crucial to a high quality education and will give our children the tools they need to participate fully as a member of society.

Maths

The 2014 National Curriculum for Maths intends to ensure that all children:

- Become fluent in the fundamental skills of Mathematics
- Are able to reason mathematically
- Can solve problems by applying reasoning skills.

At Airedale Junior School, these skills are embedded within Maths lessons and developed consistently over time. We are committed to ensuring that children are able to recognise the importance of Maths in the wider world and that they are also able to use their mathematical skills and knowledge confidently in their lives in a range of different contexts. We want all children to enjoy Mathematics and to experience success in the subject, with the ability to reason mathematically. We are committed to developing children's curiosity about the subject, as well as an appreciation of the beauty and power of Mathematics across the whole curriculum.

Science

The science curriculum ensures that children:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- are equipped with the scientific skills required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future. We understand that it is

important for lessons to have a skills-based focus, and that the knowledge can be taught through this

At Airedale Juniors, we understand that children are naturally curious and we encourage this inquisitive nature throughout their time with us and beyond. Science fosters a healthy curiosity in children about our universe and promotes respect for the living and non-living. We believe science encompasses the acquisition of knowledge, concepts, skills and positive attitudes. Through the programmes of study in the National Curriculum science document children will acquire and develop these skills throughout KS2. We ensure that the Working Scientifically skills are built-on and developed throughout their school career so that they can use equipment, conduct experiments, build arguments and explain concepts confidently and continue to ask questions and be curious about their surroundings.

Computing

In line with the 2014 National Curriculum for computing, our intent is to provide a high-quality computing education which equips children to use digital thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Our computing curriculum recognises that computing has deep links with mathematics, science and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems.

Religious Education

Airedale Junior School promotes, supports and encourages good practice in the teaching of Religious Education (RE). The agreed syllabus (Wakefield Agreed Syllabus 2018-2023) intends to ensure that all children:

- Develop understanding of concepts and mastery of skills to make sense of religion and belief, at an appropriate level of challenge for their age.
- Develop positive attitudes and values and to reflect and relate their learning in RE to their own experience.
- Have the opportunity to learn that there are those who do not hold religious beliefs and have their own philosophical perspectives, and subject matter should facilitate integration and promotion of shared values.

At Airedale Juniors, we are committed to providing our children with an exciting and positive learning environment, in which they have the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of religions while contributing to their spiritual, moral social and cultural development.

Art and Design

Our school believes that art is vital in children's education and has a significant and valuable role in the taught curriculum, providing a wealth of vital experience to excite

children's imaginations and develop their creativity. The art curriculum will develop children's critical abilities and understanding of their own and others' cultural heritages through studying a range of artists.

Children will develop their understanding of the visual language of art with effective teaching and considered sequences of lessons and experiences. Understanding of the visual elements of art and design (line, tone, texture, colour, pattern, shape, 3D form) will be developed by providing a curriculum which will enable children to reach their full potential. The art curriculum gives opportunities for children to express their creative imagination as well as practise and develop mastery in the key processes of art: drawing, painting, printing, textiles and sculpture.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. It encourages children to learn to think and intervene creatively in order to solve problems both as individuals and as members of a team. At Airedale Junior School, we encourage children to use their creativity and imagination, to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. We intend to, wherever possible, link work to other disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. The children are also given opportunities to reflect upon and evaluate past and present design technology, its uses and its effectiveness and are encouraged to become innovators and risk-takers.

Geography

At Airedale Junior School, we believe that Geography helps to provoke and answer questions about the natural and human worlds, encouraging children to develop a greater understanding of their world and their place in it. It helps to develop a range of investigation and problem-solving skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which can be used to promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; to promote children's interest and understanding about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

History

History covers how the past influences our lives and shapes our customs and beliefs. It helps children to develop a sense of identity and to make sense of the world in which they live. History has always been a subject which we are passionate about at Airedale Junior School.

The 2014 National Curriculum for history intends to ensure that all children:

- Gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world which helps to stimulate children's curiosity to know more about the past.
- Learn to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement.
- Begin to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.

Modern Foreign Languages – French

The Curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages intends to ensure that all children:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- Are able to speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and that they are continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- Can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.
- A high quality languages education should foster children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. At Airedale Juniors we are committed to ensuring that competence in another language enables children to interpret, create and exchange meaning within and across cultures. It also helps children develop skills that will open further opportunities later in life.

Music

The National Curriculum for music intends to ensure that all children:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- be taught to sing, create and compose music
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated

At Airedale Junior School, children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. We are committed to developing a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We are committed to ensuring

children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Physical Education

Airedale Junior School recognises the value of Physical Education (P.E). We fully adhere to the intent of the national curriculum for physical education to ensure that all children:

- develop competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities
- are physically active for sustained periods of time
- engage in competitive sports and activities
- lead healthy, active lives

PSHE

At Airedale Junior School, we believe that personal, social and health education (PSHE) enables our children to become healthy, safe, independent and responsible members of society. It intends to help them understand how they are developing personally and socially, and tackles many of the moral, spiritual, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up. We are dedicated to ensuring that Airedale Junior School is a happy, stimulating and caring place and we expect high standards of behaviour and good manners throughout the school.

We encourage our children to take part in a range of practical roles and activities that promote active citizenship: School Councillors, class and whole school fundraising, Befrienders and engagement in school and local events. Children have opportunities to meet and work with members of the community, such as: health workers, firefighters, police officers, librarians, sports coaches, The Local, dentists and representatives from the local church. We participate in, and promote National events such as: Anti-Bullying Week and E-Safety Week.

We are committed to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all pupils at Airedale Juniors and take part in various events to promote health and wellbeing.

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE)

At Airedale Junior School, good relationships are fundamental to our ethos. Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is lifelong learning about relationships, emotions, looking after ourselves, different families, sex, sexuality and sexual health. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes. SRE has a key part to play in the personal, social, moral and spiritual development of young people.

The aims of relationship and sex education (SRE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Teach children the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies
- Develop confidence in talking about feelings and relationships
- Help children develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others
- Prepare children for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Create a positive culture around issues of relationships and sexuality
- Understand about the diverse range of different relationships, and families, and their importance for the care and support of children
- Behave responsibly within relationships
- Be able to recognise unsafe situations and be able to protect themselves and ask for help and support
- Understand the role of the media in forming attitudes
- Understand that offence can be caused by the use of sexual terms as an insult

Outdoor Learning

Airedale Juniors encourage children to be responsible for and respect the local community and environment giving them a sense of belonging and ownership of the place in which they live. We explore the uses of the local area, integrating subjects so that meaningful activities can be planned and delivered effectively and regularly.

Visits and Visitors

In the curriculum we recognise that children's learning is enhanced by different experiences. We offer children a wide range of educational visits which are used to motivate and engage learning which improves retention. Regular visitors in school give the children another perspective on values, attitudes, learning and understanding. These include charities, people from different professions and the community.