

Our Curriculum

Our aim is to provide an exciting, engaging curriculum which will open academic doors in the future and enrich the children's lives in a variety of ways.

We believe that education is important to develop the child fully, to pass on to the next generation key ideas from the past, to prepare them for the future, and therefore to build the future of our whole community.

As a school, our curriculum is designed with the following principles as its focus:

- Balanced (where all aspects of a child's development are equally important)
- Rigorous (focussing on the key skills needed in each individual subject)
- Coherent (making links between subjects)
- Vertically integrated (with sequenced knowledge and skills from EYFS to Year 6)
- Appropriate and accessible to all
- Focussed (on key knowledge and skills)
- And Relevant (connecting the children to its key outcomes).

CURRICULUM DESIGN KEY PRINCIPLES

REFERENCE: Wiliam, G. (2011) *Principled Curriculum Design*.
SSAT (The Schools Network) Ltd

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In the 2019/20 academic year, staff have worked collaboratively to focus on the vertical integration of the curriculum, making sure that knowledge and skills are sequenced throughout the school to allow children to build on previous knowledge and progressively know more. Our revised curriculum has a pronounced focus on the Tier 2 and Tier 3 words which children need to be confident with in order to succeed and these are explicitly taught. Regular retrieval practice (through hinge questions and assessment) allows teachers to build on previous knowledge and probe for deeper

understanding as children work through the curriculum. We have also focussed on rigour, ensuring that a themed approach does not detract from the core knowledge (including vocabulary) and skills in each subject.

In addition to the children's academic development, at Tanfield Lea Community Primary School we are committed to their personal development, which is evident in how Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development can be seen throughout the curriculum. Furthermore, we foster a positive mindset in children to develop resilience, confidence and independence as they explore their talents.

We are proud of our curriculum, which our teachers bring alive through interesting, engaging learning opportunities and allow children to 'open doors' and enrich their lives in meaningful ways.

For more information on each subject, click on the 'Subject' buttons above. For a snap-shot of the curriculum in action in each year group, click on the 'Yearly Overviews' below.