

Rakegate's curriculum

Intent

The curriculum intent of the school is intrinsically linked to the school's vision statement, mission statement and values.

We will provide a safe, happy and creative environment in which school and families can work together to enable the children to learn effectively. We believe all children can reach their full potential by equipping them with the skills and knowledge required for a rapidly changing world.

The key to unlocking a broad and balanced curriculum for our children is to ensure that all children acquire the key skills involved in reading, writing, mathematics and communication as soon as possible.

We aim to give children as many opportunities as we can to build through planned educational visits in each class, pantomimes and theatre visits. We have developed an outdoor learning provision which includes a natural working space to develop pupils social and practical skills as well as supporting their physical and mental wellbeing.

Implementation

We follow the National Curriculum and in EYFS the Development Matters framework. Our curriculum is delivered discretely for core subjects and we use a thematic approach to deliver foundation subjects. Music, PSHE, computing and RE are taught as discrete subjects. Cross-curricular links are made where relevant and beneficial to learning. To support a broad and balanced curriculum, the school plans regular 'Theme days' allowing teachers and pupils to immerse themselves in given subjects without the pressure of core subjects restricting time. Lessons are enhanced by memorable experiences (known as hooks) and wider opportunities, which inspire children of all abilities. We employ specialist staff to enhance provision for music and physical education. Parents are regularly welcomed into school for curriculum workshops, which provide opportunities for them to not only see given subjects being taught but to work alongside their children and support their learning. We feel our curriculum supports both knowledge and skills development and we aim to teach children how to retain important information, vocabulary and facts while also developing strategies to transfer knowledge and skills across all areas of the curriculum. We have also worked hard to give extra opportunities for our children to experience other hobbies, sports and crafts as we know many do not attend clubs or other extra-curricular activities outside of school.

Impact

We are constantly reviewing our offer for our pupils and they themselves contribute to the planning of topic areas through the questions they want to be answered as part of their lessons. Our pupils are confident, articulate and enthused by their learning. They are keen to share the knowledge they have acquired through a range of different means. We measure the impact of our curriculum through book scrutiny, pupil and parent voice, data analysis, lesson observation and the successes of our pupils in all areas. We know we have succeeded when pupils leave year 6 fully prepared for the next stage of their learning journey academically, socially and emotionally.