

Chafyn Grove School Curriculum Policy



Curriculum Policy

At Chafyn Grove we offer a broad and balanced curriculum throughout the school from the Early Years Foundation Stage through to Year 8, ensuring that all subjects are given an appropriate amount of curriculum time. We pride ourselves that there is no narrowing of this breadth in the main examination years (6 and 8). The commitment to generous timetabling of lessons in non-examined subjects reflects our determination to maintain a broad and balanced curriculum.

All pupils of compulsory school age receive a full time supervised education.

We aim to provide a curriculum that will foster and promote the pupils' intellectual, cultural, physical, social and emotional development and allow them to establish the skills and attitudes to become independent, life-long learners, equipped to operate effectively as citizens. Our curriculum is designed to be stimulating, to maximise pupils' achievement and to make learning an enjoyable experience.

Pupils develop their skills in the core subjects, with due weight being given to the development of linguistic and mathematical skills, to science and ICT, but they are also given scope to flourish in art, design, drama, music and sport.

They are encouraged to enjoy reading and to express themselves both in writing and in speech. They learn to apply their mathematical skills to solve problems and there is an emphasis on practical science.

In the Foundation Stage and Years One and Two, the pupils are taught by their form teachers and some subject specialists – for example in music, French, ICT and P.E. In Years 3 and 4, more specialist teaching is introduced so that by Year 6 they are taught entirely by subject specialists.

Heads of Department oversee the planning across the whole of the school to ensure balance, progression and continuity in the content and delivery of their subjects.

Foundation Stage

Our pupils in the Foundation Stage follow the EYFS seven areas of learning: Communication and Language, P.S.E.D. (Personal, Social and Emotional Development) and Physical Development are known as the 3 'prime' areas, Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World, Expressive Arts and Design are the 'specific' areas.

There are also 3 'Learning Characteristics'

- Playing and Exploring
- Active Learning
- Creating and Thinking Critically.

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Learning activities are planned around individual goals set out in each area of the EYFS curriculum, and next steps for learning and progress are assessed against these goals.

Areas of Experience

The Chafyn Grove curriculum provides experience in each of the areas of education as follows:

Linguistic

There is generous allocation of time to English across the year groups and speaking, listening and communication skills are practised constantly in all areas of the curriculum.

The importance of French and Latin to our vision of breadth is reflected in the generous allocation of lessons to both subjects in the senior part of the school. French is taught from Reception, Latin from Year 5 as well as Spanish in Years 4, 5 and 6.

Mathematical

There is generous timetable allocation to mathematics across the year groups and mathematical skills are also used in other subject areas such as science, geography and technology.

Scientific

In the Early Years, scientific experience is gained through the Knowledge and Understanding of the World area of learning. Science is then taught in classes by form teachers following a well planned curriculum designed to promote knowledge and understanding and excite an interest in the subject, while developing skills of enquiry, experiment, recording and drawing conclusions. Science is taught by specialists from Year 3 when they start to use the well equipped laboratories. Practical science is emphasised and forms a central part of most lessons.

Technological

Experience in ICT is gained through the widespread use of computers for research and presentation in lessons as well as through a progressive programme of ICT lessons held in the ICT suite for children from EYFS through to Year 8, taught by a specialist teacher. All pupils from Early Years to Year 8 have ICT lessons in the ICT suite, where they learn, not only to use a range of programs, but also to prepare presentations, take and edit films and to use the Internet safely for individual research and communication. Experience in ICT is also provided through the widespread use of computers for research and presentation in other lessons, using classroom and library computers and ipads and through use of the VLE from home.

Human and Social

Geography, history, RE and PSHE form the core input to Human and Social experience. History and geography are largely topic based until Year 3 when they start to be taught as separate subjects with cross curricular links made wherever it is appropriate. Current or at least very recent examples of human and physical geography are used wherever possible and there is a commitment to the understanding of sustainability and other environmental issues. A number of charities are supported and a varied programme of assemblies also contributes to this area. Extra experience is provided through visits to museums, field trips, workshops and through interaction with visiting speakers.

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Personal, social and health education (PSHEE) is taught as a discrete subject in tutorial groups and is also embedded in other subjects such as science, sport, English and RS. Pupils learn about safety, health, the government, the law, how to be good citizens and to listen to, and to be tolerant of, people with opinions and beliefs that differ from their own. In Year 7 & 8, pupils are prepared for their future lives through the Leadership and Post CE programmes.

Physical

Sport forms an important part of the educational experience for our pupils. All children receive specialist sports coaching and represent the school on a regular basis, whether playing in the A, B, C or even D team - in rugby, hockey, cricket, netball, rounders, tennis or squash. Coaching is differentiated according to the strengths of the pupil and we practise a 'sport for all' policy.

We also encourage participation in cross-country running, athletics and other sports such as sailing or riding, through our activities programme. We feel that the fitness of the children is reflected in the classroom and all of our pupils are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular sporting activities and coaching sessions, where appropriate.

Extra tuition in football and mini rugby is available for pupils from Year 2, while many pupils receive tennis and squash coaching from Year 1 – Y8.

Aesthetic and Creative

Music and drama also play an important part in school life. Children are encouraged to think and react creatively to the stimulate that arise within lessons. Two thirds of pupils over the age of seven learn at least one instrument, and there are a large number of ensembles, orchestras and choirs practising on a regular basis. Informal and formal concerts give the children the confidence to perform in front of others, while each year group is given the opportunity to participate in a dramatic production in addition to their weekly drama lessons.

Art is particularly strong at Chafyn Grove; excellent facilities and a commitment to art in the community, keep this subject to the fore.

The Enriched Curriculum

Year 6 have a timetabled Cognitive Development lesson. Through a wide variety of activities they are encouraged to develop their own learning skills, as well as being prepared for the important senior school pre-tests by practicing their Verbal, Non-Verbal and Spatial Reasoning skills.

Year 7 follow the SkillForce Prince William Award, which is a character development programme, daring the children to be their best selves.

Year 8 have a critical thinking lesson.

Provision appropriate to different abilities

The subject matter and curriculum content is appropriate to the age of the pupils and is further tailored to meet the needs of individual pupils, according to their abilities. It is our mission to give all our pupils the opportunity to learn, make progress and to fulfil their potential. The most talented pupils are offered extension opportunities in class and in extra sessions, for example, in mathematics. Learning Support is offered to those who need help so they can access the curriculum. This may take the form of withdrawal for one-to-one support lessons with our specialist LS staff, in-class support,

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or more considerable support (paid for by the parents) if the need for a designated support teacher is identified by the SENCO or Ed Psych report. Learning targets for pupils receiving learning support are set for each subject so their goals are kept in focus. Pupils who have ESL are given language support lessons as appropriate from TEFL trained teachers and their curriculum is adapted according to their need. Pupils attempting scholarships will also receive individual attention, as it is required.

We retain some flexibility in the timetable to allow for the relative strengths of different forms or individuals, as we are anxious to ensure a curriculum that caters for the needs of all of our pupils. For example, if certain pupils need to receive more English or maths lessons, then they might reduce the amount of Latin lessons that they attend. At all times we are concerned about the individual.

Activities Programme

Beyond the timetabled curriculum, there is a 70-minute activity session twice a week. These activities are designed to encourage either the learning of a new skill or the development of skills learnt elsewhere. We hope that the pupils will develop a genuine interest in and passion for an area that they might otherwise not encounter and we are anxious to maintain a balance between sporting, artistic, dramatic and other activities. Pre-Prep activities take place at lunch time or after school and are open to different ages dependent on activity. These activities are run by visiting teachers or Pre-Prep staff.

Careers guidance

We give the children appropriate preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life as well as preparing them for their transition to senior school. Pupils are made aware of aspects of the world of work through the curriculum in subjects such as geography and in PSHE. In Year 8 we have introduced a one term Business Studies module which includes aspects of finance, setting up a business and marketing. This is taught through the Activity programme. The Year 8 post Common Entrance programme also includes presentations from visiting speakers such as the police, lawyers and health professionals. In Year 7 a new communications module develops pupils' ability to speak in public and make presentations with a view to future interviews and the professional world beyond Chafyn.

Overview of Pre-Prep Curriculum

Overview of Pre-Prep Curriculum 2019-2020			
Year Group	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Nursery	1st Year – On the Farm	1st Year – All About Me	1st Year – At the Seaside
(2 Year programme)	2nd Year – Nursery Rhymes	2nd Year – Weather	2nd Year - Minibeasts
Reception	Let's have fun with...Stories	Let's explore... Things That Move	Let's celebrate... Our Wonderful World

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Overview of Pre-Prep Curriculum 2019-2020						
Year Group	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
Yr 1 (1 Year programme)	Animals & Us (Science focus)		Materials (Science Focus)		Britain is Brilliant (History & Geography focus)	
	Changing Seasons – Autumn		Changing Seasons – Winter/Spring		Plants (Science focus)	
	Let's Get Together (RS) Music - Exploring sounds Long and short-duration Harvest Christmas		Music - Pulse and Rhythm What is a score? Easter		Music - Pitch-high and low Timbre, tempo and dynamics- louds and softs	
Yr 2 (1 Year programme)	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
Topic	Castles (Corfe/Wardour visits) William the Conqueror Bayeaux Tapestry Great fire of London Samuel Pepys Guy Fawkes		Egyptians Tutankhamen Howard Carter		Islands Beachcombing Katie Morag Henri Matisse	
English	Fantasy stories Non-fiction information leaflets Poetry – rhyming Christmas around the world		Information texts Recounts/diaries Traditional tales from other cultures Poetry - humorous		Quest and adventure stories Stories by the same author Instructions List poems	
Maths	All topics	All topics	All topics	All topics	All topics	All topics
Science	Everyday materials Properties of materials Plant bulbs for Christmas		Weather watch Changing materials Planting vegetables		Lifecycles Food chains Habitats Hatching chicks	

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RS	Discovery Scheme – Belonging Celebrations- Harvest, Diwali, Nativity story, Christingle, Advent, Hannukah Christianity	Discovery Scheme – Commitments Islam Christianity Easter	Discovery Scheme – Leaders and teachers (Moses the leader) Judaism Places of worship
PE/Games	Swimming/Gym Rugby/Hockey	Swimming Dance/HRF Football/Netball	Swimming/ Striking & fielding/Net & Wall/Athletics
Music	DURATION-Long and short sounds Exploring PULSE and RHYTHM CHRISTMAS Music Harvest Yr 1 and 2 Play	PITCH-High and low sounds RECORDERS-Begin to play and read basic notation on the recorder	INSTRUMENTS-Instruments- Symbols and dynamics RECORDERS Explore different repertoire.
French	Greeting Numbers to 20/30 Colours Animals Where you live Food Christmas	Numbers to 20 Days of the week Parts of the body Classroom objects Clothes Colours Greetings	Numbers to 30 Clothes Weather Colours Family Food Transport
ICT	Using the network, finding shared resources. Saving to different locations. Developing use of, and accuracy of use with mouse and keyboard. Creating images.	Finding and sharing information and images. Combining text and graphics	Giving instructions to an on- screen character. ‘Thinking like a computer.’
Art	Children will explore a range of art techniques in both 2D and 3D, linked, where possible, to our classroom topics	Children will explore a range of art techniques in both 2D and 3D, linked, where possible, to our classroom topics	Children will explore a range of art techniques in both 2D and 3D, linked, where possible, to our classroom topics
PSHE	Our happy school Out and about	Looking forward Friends and family	Healthy bodies healthy minds Ready steady go