



Aims

- To raise levels of attainment for all pupils, enabling them to achieve their personal best
- To foster self-esteem and personal responsibility
- To prepare children for the challenges and opportunities of adulthood in a developing world enabling them to be positive citizens in society
- To provide an exciting, broad, balanced and relevant curriculum appropriate for individual needs
- To establish a learning culture within the school involving pupils, staff, parents, governors and other stakeholders
- To develop confident, disciplined and enquiring learners, able to make informed choices and to take responsibility for their own learning
- To create a well-structured environment in which children are able to learn and teachers are able to teach
- To facilitate considerate and positive relationships between all members of the school community
- To ensure equal opportunities in relation to gender, race, ability, special needs and belief

Principles

Children learn best:

- when they are happy and secure
- when their work is planned appropriately
- when a variety of teaching techniques, strategies and contexts are used appropriately
- when they understand
- when they are actively involved
- when their environment is conducive to learning
- when there are positive links between the school, home and community
- when the whole team works and develops together

Our principles are addressed across the curriculum. Specific arrangements for each subject are detailed below.

Early Years

Children can start Newnham Primary in Reception. During their first years they follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and develop their knowledge, skills and understanding through nine areas of learning. They are assessed on the Foundation Stage Profile. Detailed information about the EYFS Curriculum is in the DRET Early Years Policy.

English

At Newnham Primary we have a daily English session with an emphasis on developing basic skills and knowledge in speaking, listening, reading and writing in a range of contexts. The four areas are inter-related and planning ensures appropriate coverage of these through a variety of genres. In the school we use Read, Write, Inc a phonics based programme to develop the children's skills. Whilst some literacy skills may be taught discretely, it is vital that children understand the relevance of what they are learning and can apply these skills in different contexts through the delivery of the connected curriculum.

Maths

At Newnham Primary we have a daily maths lesson with an emphasis on mental calculation. Lessons have a clear focus on direct, instructional teaching and interactive oral work with the whole class and groups. Lessons are organised and differentiated to enable pupils of all abilities to access appropriate learning. The planning structure is the same across each year group and is organised into key concepts which are consolidated and extended during the academic year.

Science

At Newnham Primary we aim to teach science so as to foster the following attitudes: curiosity, independence, open mindedness, responsibility, originality, cooperation, determination, self criticism, perseverance, sensitivity to living things and flexibility of thought. Teachers are encouraged to use a variety of teaching styles and classroom organisation in order to ensure the children have experience of a child centred approach with open ended questioning techniques; where their ideas through scientific investigation are valued and respected; they are given opportunities to broaden their scientific knowledge

ICT

As the aims of ICT are to equip children with the skills necessary to use technology and to become independent learners, the teaching style that we adopt is active and practical. During their weekly timetabled session the children are taught how to work with hardware and software in a "skills" session. These skills are then transferred to support learning across the curriculum through all aspects of school life. The programme of study Newnham uses is Switched On Computing which ensures coverage of Curriculum 2014 from EYFS right through to Year 6.

SMSC

SMSC is taught through discrete lessons, circle time, as well as through cross curricular opportunities. Assemblies also support the delivery of SMSC and citizenship.

Physical Activity

Our PE programme is broad and balanced, complies with statutory requirements whilst also being accessible and differentiated to meet the needs of all pupils. Sessions are structured and delivered to maximise time, learning, enjoyment and activity levels for all children and to facilitate involvement in out-of-hours learning opportunities. Facilities and equipment are made available for use at lunchtimes and we aim to continually improve and develop these to promote increased participation in consultation with pupils and staff. Sports coaches are used to deliver lunchtime learning and after school clubs. The remaining areas are taught by teachers.

Religious Education

R.E at our school is taught through the newly revised and updated Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education for schools in Northamptonshire. This syllabus teaches children the skills and attitudes through a breadth of study that encompasses both minor and major modules; where teaching stimulates curiosity as well as develops the children's sense of exploration and discovery.

The Arts

At Newnham, we acknowledge the arts subjects as powerful, unique forms of communication that can influence the way children feel, think and act. We aim to help them both understand themselves and to relate to others as part of cultures both past and present. Through our teaching of the Arts, we aim to develop the children's ability to appreciate a wide variety of art forms and to make judgments whilst increasing self-discipline, creativity, aesthetic sensitivity and fulfillment.

Humanities

We aim to reflect the requirements of the National Curriculum with a particular focus on the teaching of the skills inherent in history and geography. These skills are taught through short units of work that ensure both coverage and progression. We plan learning opportunities to transfer these skills to support learning across the curriculum in a more connected curricular way, whilst matching the challenge of the task to the children's ability and experience.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Statement

Every member of Newnham's Community will be valued, respected and welcomed equally. Children will be taught to celebrate their differences, understand the cultural diversity and variances within their community; local and global, and all discrimination from any member of the school community to another will be tackled rigorously.

Appendices

For specific guidance on the following, please refer to the appendices:

- Gifted and Talented
- Early Years

Monitoring and review

This policy was written S Johnson and will be reviewed Nov 2017