



## Curriculum Intent

### Cooperate Achieve Respect Enjoy

Our aim is to provide our children with an engaging, exciting and empowering curriculum that equips them for today and tomorrow.

At Murdishaw West Community Primary School the curriculum is designed to: recognise children's prior learning, provide first hand learning experiences, allow the children to develop interpersonal skills, independence, build resilience and become creative, critical thinkers.

#### How did we design our curriculum?

We spent a considerable amount of time designing our curriculum, discussing the needs of the school community combined with extensive research. We dedicated staff meetings and INSET sessions to plan and develop our curriculum. Our staff were given time to be creative and imaginative to develop a curriculum that is unique to our school whilst ensuring we cover the National Curriculum objectives. Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage are taught using the EYFS framework with an emphasis on developing key skills, knowledge and understanding through direct teaching and structured continuous provision.

#### How does our curriculum meet the needs of our pupils?

Here at Murdishaw West we carefully designed, planned and organised our curriculum to ensure coverage and progression for every learner. It provides pupils with memorable experiences, in addition to diverse and rich opportunities from which children can learn and develop a range of transferable skills. We discussed our children's backgrounds, life and cultural experiences and this helped us to design a curriculum that meets their needs.

It was agreed that it is essential we provide opportunities for our children to experience the benefits of a multicultural society, tolerance and understanding. We want to be able to respond to national and world events, enabling the children to see different perspectives and develop their own opinions within an ever-changing world.

In addition, we have a whole school strategic approach to the spiritual, cultural and moral development of pupils. Philosophy for Children is embedded into the school curriculum and offers our children the chance to raise questions, discuss important issues, learn to listen to others views and share their own thoughts. We believe a curriculum is about broadening minds, enriching communities, providing experiences that will support children beyond the classroom.

At Murdishaw West Community Primary School it is our underlying belief that every child should feel valued and experience the feeling of success in a wide range of curriculum areas. We have designed, organised and planned our curriculum to ensure every child receives an appropriate mix of academic and personal development, which means our curriculum places equal importance on core and foundation subjects.



We place priority on ensuring children's physical and mental well-being are met. We understand that children will not be successful learners unless they are emotionally secure, therefore we designed our curriculum and adopted a flexible approach to timetabling to ensure we can meet and respond to any issues that arise.

## How do pupils progress and achieve within our curriculum?

Our curriculum is designed with knowledge at its heart to ensure that children develop a strong vocabulary base and understanding of the world.

The curriculum promotes long term learning and we believe that progress means knowing more and remembering more. We have developed a curriculum built on current research on how memory works to ensure that children not only have access to 'the best that has been thought and said' but are taught this in a way that ensures children can remember the curriculum content in future years.

We make use of knowledge organisers (which are sent home regularly) to ensure children know exactly which information is expected to be learned over the course of their study in a particular subject.

Subject leaders play an important part in the success of the curriculum by leading a regular programme of monitoring, evaluation and review. Subjects are planned to ensure progression of knowledge and skills across school. The curriculum design ensures that the needs of individual and small groups of children can be met within the environment of high quality teaching, supported by targeted, proven interventions where appropriate. In this way it can be seen to impact in a very positive way on pupil outcomes. Enjoyment of the curriculum promotes achievement, confidence and good behaviour.

## How will we evaluate our curriculum?

We pride ourselves in constantly improving our school and value feedback from all stakeholders. We give our parents and governors many opportunities to share and celebrate the outcomes of our curriculum. All classes invite parents to a termly celebration of topics where pupils will showcase their outcomes in a themed class assembly. Each year group has a Twitter account and a class blog which is regularly updated with work. Our whole school approach to using Seesaw enables us to share work across the school and with parents.

Alongside the statutory curriculum we also offer additional provision to enrich children's education. Our staff plan exciting educational visits/visitors or tasks which 'hook', inspire and enhance the curriculum.

Children leave Murdishaw West with a sense of belonging, where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our curriculum, please don't hesitate to contact Mr C Stanley or Mrs J Phillips at school.