



Our Curriculum

As an academy we continue to follow the National Curriculum . The National Curriculum is taught in all state schools to children aged between 5 to 16 years. It presently consists of twelve subjects:

- 5 Core Subjects – English, Maths, Science, Computing and Religious Education (RE);
- 7 Foundation Subjects - History, Geography, Design and Technology, Art and Design, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, PE.
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education is also taught through other lessons and aspects of school life (e.g. Circle time, assemblies).
- Religious Education is taught according to the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus.

Pupils in Key Stage 2 learn German. A new curriculum was introduced by the government in September 2014.

All children in Years 5 and 6 learn to play a musical instrument.

The new curriculum can be viewed on www.education.gov.uk

English

Children must learn to communicate by:

Spoken Word

Reading

Writing

Spoken Word

Opportunities are given for the child to acquire the confidence and habit of speaking clearly, logically and in a pleasant manner. Children can talk about things that interest them or about objects, books or ideas in lessons that stimulate conversation. Drama and presentations can be used to encourage these skills. Children are taught to speak in Standard English.

The ability to listen and understand is a very important skill. This is encouraged by stories, poetry and ICT and also by listening carefully to the teacher's instructions and other pupils.

Reading (Word Reading and Comprehension)

It is important that children pick up the habit of reading and find reading a

pleasurable activity. All children are allowed time each day to read quietly for pleasure and they are asked to take their books home on a regular basis accompanied by a reading record book. It is also important that children enjoy sharing books with their parents. In the early stages children are taught a range of reading strategies. As they become more fluent readers, they are taught other reading skills such as the gathering of information from reference books. They are also encouraged to reflect upon what they read and form preferences and opinions. In Key Stage 1 we follow Read Write Inc for our phonic teaching.

Writing (Transcription-spelling and handwriting and Composition – articulating ideas and structuring them in speech and writing)

There are many different kinds of writing; story writing, descriptive writing, writing instructions, letter writing, poetry, writing from first-hand experience. Writing is needed for all areas of the curriculum and our aim is that children should be able to express themselves clearly and in a manner appropriate to the purpose of the writing. There will be opportunities for children to plan, revise and evaluate their work.

Handwriting and presentation is an important aspect of creating the right impression and children will be taught a cursive style from Year 2 onwards. Children will progress from writing in pencil to pen in the juniors.

Spelling, vocabulary, grammar, punctuation is taught both in the context of writing and spoken work, and also in discrete lessons.

Mathematics

We follow the Singapore Maths programme from Reception to Year 6 and all children take part in a Daily Maths Meeting.

Areas of maths studied include: Number, Measurement, Geometry, Statistics (KS1) Number, Geometry, Measurement, Statistics, Ratio and Proportion, Algebra (KS2). Mathematics is a very important part of the curriculum and is given a high priority. We aim to teach children to apply their mathematical knowledge to situations in everyday life. It is also important that children become familiar with certain mathematical facts, such as what makes 10, progressing to knowing the multiplication tables. Parents can help with learning these facts at the appropriate stage.

We take a thematic approach to the Foundation Subjects and these are taught following the Inspire Not as We Know It Curriculum. More details can be found on: www.notasweknowit.co.uk/Inspire-Curriculum

Science

Wherever possible, science is taught in a practical and investigative way. The subject is delivered through a series of topics. Aspects of science are repeated several times but at a higher level of understanding each time. Emphasis is placed on the process of science, the acquiring of the scientific skills of observation, classification, prediction and experimentation. Knowledge and understanding of science becomes increasingly important with older children.

We make use of the outdoor environment where possible to study life processes and

living things.

History

Through the teaching of history, we hope children will enjoy finding out about the past and develop a sense of time and an understanding of what life was like in the past. Key Stage 1 children will learn about famous historical people and events and will develop an awareness of the past. In Key Stage 2, they will be taught through study units such as:

- The Romans, Saxons and Vikings
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Egyptians
- Stone Age / Iron Age/Bronze age
- Local History

Geography

Geography aims to increase the children's awareness and understanding of the world around them. We teach geography through class topics such as the study of places and settlements near and far, weather, rivers and the environment. Children learn about specific regions, both in the UK and around the World. We hope to develop geographical skills such as map work, again using the outdoor environment where possible.

Art

The children will have opportunities to use a variety of materials and techniques both to develop their expression of creative thought and also to record their observation of places and objects. They will also familiarise themselves with the work of a variety of artists and reflect on and evaluate such works, also their own works and those of other children.

Music

The National Curriculum comprises:

- Performing, listening to, reviewing and evaluating music.
- Learning to sing.
- Having the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.
- Creating and composing music.

We aim to provide a variety of opportunities for both. We have a specialist music teacher from Staffordshire Performing Arts who teaches children in Years 5 and 6. In Years 5 and 6 children are given the chance to have musical instrument tuition.

The service is provided by County School instrumental teachers. The cost is met by the school through our Pupil Premium funding.

Design and Technology

Children will undertake a number of technology projects whereby they investigate a need to respond to an opportunity to make or modify something. They will need to work as a member of a team, acquire a range of skills (including working safely with tools) and work with a variety of materials. They will learn to evaluate and test their prototypes. They will also understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

PE

At both Key Stages children study dance, gymnastics and games skills; the latter being applied in a number of game situations e.g. football, volleyball and rounders. Depending upon the weather and time of year, PE will take place on the playing field, the playground or in the school hall. The school takes part in competitions with other schools in the area and we like to give every child an opportunity to be involved.

Swimming is an important area as it is the one thing that we can teach children that may save their life. Children in Years 5 and 6 swim in the Autumn Term. Children in Years 3 and 4 swim in the Spring Term. Children in Year 1 swim from Easter to Whitsun and children in Year 2 swim from June to July, This is funded by our Sports Premium Funding.

We are very proud of the Boney Hay Biathlon and all children will receive training from our outside Sports Provider in running and cycling over the year. We have purchased cycles suitable for all ages and safety helmets so that every child has the opportunity to learn and develop a lifelong skill. Once again this is funded by our Sports Premium Funding.

There are also opportunities for outdoor and adventurous activities (the adventure playground, orienteering skills and outdoor activities for older pupils during a residential visit).

Computing

Computing is used in all areas of the curriculum using the skills of word processing, use of graphics, spreadsheets, modelling, multimedia presentations and control technology. Children are taught computer science and learn the basics of programming. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate (able to use and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology) at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in the digital world. E Safety is also very important to us and children take part in a variety of e safety lessons throughout the year. The school has its own website (www.boneyhayschool.co.uk).

Personal, Social Health and Economic Education

Children will have questions answered openly and directly as they arise, particularly

with reference to the work on life and growth in their Science work.

In Sex and Relationships Education we seek to complement the work already being done by parents at home. Parents of Year 5 and 6 children will receive notice of the Sex and Relationships Education programme before it takes place. This is delivered by our school nurse. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of sex education, except that which is part of the National Curriculum science requirement.

The National Curriculum also covers elements of drugs awareness, including the difference between medicinal and harmful drugs (including alcohol and tobacco), and their effects on the body.

The school has incorporated the following elements of PHSE into its curriculum.

- developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities,
- preparing to play an active role as citizens,
- developing a healthy safer lifestyle,
- developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.

These are covered through the science, geography and RE curriculum and through “Circle Time” activities and School Council.

We also hold an annual “Every Child Matters Day” where children not only raise money for Jeans for Genes, but also explore areas of;

- Staying Safe
- Keeping Healthy
- Enjoyment and Achievement
- Economic Wellbeing
- Making a positive contribution to society.

Religious Education

Our teaching of Religious Education will be consistent with that laid down in the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. The teaching is open and pupil-centred, in the sense that opinions are not forced upon the children who are free to question, to enquire and to doubt. The teaching will provide the child with opportunities for exploring his or her own and other people’s experiences to enable them to discover or reject a religious way of life. The children will be involved in studies of the stories of the Bible and those from other religions. They will explore Christian festivals and those of other religions. Our morning assemblies are in keeping with our approach to RE and are of a broadly Christian nature. We welcome members of local faith communities into school to lead assemblies and work alongside pupils. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious

Education and assemblies.

