



Curriculum

Curriculum Intent

To create positive memories, opportunities and experiences that will shape the future for all pupils by developing values, knowledge, skills, understanding and competencies.

The Robert Drake Primary School curriculum:

- *Is planned using The National Curriculum as a basis to ensure continuity and progression in each subject. For RE and PSHE, the Essex Schemes of Work are used as a basis for curriculum planning;*
- *Ensures that knowledge, skills and competencies (including independence, reasoning and resilience), which are intrinsically linked, are developed progressively and build on what has been taught previously;*
- *Planning is responsive to the needs of all pupils regardless of ability, including those with disabilities or special educational needs, and ensures that all have equal opportunities to access the curriculum. For further information please see our SEND policy;*
- *Follows a two year rolling programme in all foundation subjects to ensure that there is full curriculum coverage and to cater for the mixed age classes;*
- *Is organised so that some subjects are generally planned to be taught in blocks (science, history, geography, art, DT and music). Sufficient time is given to study units in depth so that high quality learning can take place;*
- *Makes links between subjects where they are meaningful;*
- *Is planned to be relevant to the pupils at Robert Drake and reflect the school's locality and current context;*
- *Focuses on reading as this is the gateway to accessing the curriculum;*
- *Focuses on speaking, listening and vocabulary acquisition due to children starting school with a level of communication and language skills below that which is typical for their age. The understanding of a rich and varied vocabulary is vital in pupils' development;*
- *Is planned to maximise opportunities to develop understanding of faiths and cultures other than their own;*
- *Develops pupils' empathy, tolerance and respect for others, as they grow to be adult citizens and develop their understanding of British Values;*

- *Planning sets out clear end points including what the pupils need know to reach these end points. In science, history, geography, languages, DT, art and music, Knowledge Organisers or Projects on a Page set out key learning and key vocabulary;*
- *Planning identifies key concepts that should be embedded into pupils' long-term memory. There are regular opportunities to practise in order to develop recall of concepts and apply them fluently;*
- *Broadens their experiences and appreciation of others' creativity and achievement through a wide range of extra-curricular activities, regular theme weeks, educational visits, visitors to the school and workshops.*

In addition, we aim for the curriculum to:

- *Promote the development of the whole child;*
- *Excite pupils' imagination, curiosity and creativity;*
- *Raise pupils' present and future aspirations regardless of starting points;*
- *Promote positive attitudes towards learning;*
- *Enable every pupil to leave the school with the confidence and courage to be independent and individual;*
- *Prepare them for the next stage of their education.*