



Curriculum and Assessment at Outwoods Primary School



Here at Outwoods Primary School we provide a creative curriculum based around the Cornerstones Curriculum.



With the new National Curriculum being introduced by the Government this year (2014-15) we have been working hard to refresh our school approach and provision for pupils. As part of this work we have decided to implement the new Cornerstones Curriculum, a nationally recognised approach for delivering outstanding learning opportunities for children.

What is the Cornerstones Curriculum?

The Cornerstones Curriculum is a creative and thematic approach to learning that is mapped to the new 2014 Primary National Curriculum to ensure comprehensive coverage of national expectations. Our new curriculum will be delivered through Imaginative Learning Projects (ILPs) which will provide a rich menu of exciting and motivating learning activities that make creative links between all aspects of our children's learning.

We believe children learn better when they are encouraged to use their imagination and apply their learning to engaging contexts. Our new curriculum will provide lots of learning challenges throughout the academic year that will require children to solve problems, apply themselves creatively and express their knowledge and understanding effectively across the curriculum.

Cornerstones also provide a rigorous essential skills framework that outlines the end of year expectations in all subjects. These essential skills are tied to activities and are age related so that staff can track children's progress and identify their individual learning needs.

What has changed?

Much of the publicity about the changes in the curriculum has focussed on 'higher expectations' in various subjects. Some areas of the curriculum the content of the new primary curriculum is significantly more demanding than in the past; particularly in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science. The new curriculum is set out into Year group expectations. If your child is achieving well we will encourage more in-depth and investigative work to allow greater mastery and understanding of concepts and ideas.

Due to the SATs assessments the curriculum for the children in Years 2 and 6 will not become statutory until September 2015.

The National curriculum can be found at :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-primary-curriculum>

Alternatively you can follow the link on our website on our 'Links for parents' page

How will we be assessing your child's progress?

Children in Years 2 and 6 will continue to be assessed using the 'old' levelling system.

The government have requested that schools develop their own systems for tracking pupil progress and attainment. At Outwoods we will be taking on a new assessment system that will track your child's progress through a sequence of steps. We have been working tirelessly to map your child's attainment into the new system. This information will be available to you at the end of the Autumn term once we have finalised the changeover.