

The Learning Journey



Curriculum Statement

At Farthinghoe Primary School we offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced and which builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills of all children, whatever their starting points, as they progress through each Key Stage. Our curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum 2014 plus a wealth of experiences and opportunities to best meet the learning and developmental needs of our pupils. Our curriculum ensures learning is meaningful and benefits from a specific focus on the core areas of English and Mathematics. It aims to inspire children to nurture a passion for learning, providing pupils with the requisite skills to be successful, independent and motivated learners in readiness for their next stage of education.

Our long-term plans ensure coverage and progression. PIRA and PUMA Assessment Frameworks help us ensure children are meeting age-related expectations in their learning. The More Able are challenged further and children who find aspects of their learning more difficult are appropriately supported so that they too are enabled to experience success. We are a member of NACE (National Association of More Able children) and are currently working towards accreditation for becoming a challenge school. National requirements and school requirements are mapped out as a whole school. This is a knowledge based four year rolling programme which is personalised to ensure age appropriate levels are met. Individual teachers plan the curriculum for their pupils accordingly.

The curriculum is underpinned by the school's Values which are taught on their own and through other areas of the curriculum, including collective worship. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and their understanding of the core values of our society are woven through the curriculum.

The English curriculum and the mathematics curriculum are supported through curriculum frameworks including: The Hamilton Trust and White Rose for mathematics; structured reading schemes including the Oxford Reading Tree for reading; 'Nessy'; the 'Nelson Spelling' scheme and the Nelson handwriting scheme. The use of inspirational texts and teaching is fundamental to [Hamilton's English Blocks](#). This is where the teaching of specific grammatical topics is linked, and feeds in to, the all-important higher level literacy skills so that the foundation of a good English curriculum – the engagement with wonderful children's literature in several media – is genuinely at the heart of all our teaching.

In all year groups there are small group interventions in order to support pupils in gaining the key skills to become successful readers, writers and mathematicians. These include the 'Rapids' maths scheme and 'Read, Write inc'.

Specialist teachers and instructors support music and physical education. All subject leaders are given training and opportunity to keep developing their own subject knowledge, skills and understanding so they can support curriculum development and their colleagues throughout the school. Theme weeks, whole school activities, residential visits and opportunities within and outside school all enrich and develop the children's learning. After school clubs and events extend these opportunities further. Additional whole school programmes and approaches support quality teaching and learning and the school is well resourced in terms of learning materials, books and technology. Sporting opportunities have a high profile.

Our science curriculum has impact at its very heart. Every block includes a strong focus on the skills of scientific inquiry through an investigative and exploratory approach that makes learning memorable. Children will take away a deep understanding of both science content and scientific method. Our Science units and objectives are taken from the work carried out with Oxford University and the Hamilton Trust

The outdoor environment and the local community are considered an opportunity for active learning for all our pupils. The Prince William Award is completed by each child in Keystage 2 this 18 week programme enriches different curriculum areas as well as promoting resilience and a positive mindset. Children in Key stage 1 visit our link farm for a terms worth of Forest School.





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Pupils have opportunities to share their learning with each other, their parents and carers and other learners through school-based and external exhibitions, performances, competitions and events involving other schools. Developing their independence and motivation as learners and their sense of responsibility as future citizens is at the heart of all our teaching and learning.

Pupils are taught in two Classes. Keystage 1 and EYFS is made up of pupils aged 4-7 (Reception and Key Stage 1). Class 2 is made up of pupils aged 7-11 (Key Stage 2). In the morning our key stage 2 is split into two distinct teaching groups for Mathematics, English and Science lessons (Y3/4 and Y5/6).

The school uses 'Letters and Sounds' and Phonics Play to underpin synthetic phonics teaching and reading within Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 as appropriate. A rich combination of fiction and non fiction books support guided reading in Class 2. Read, Write Inc is used as appropriate to support pupils with special educational needs. Hamilton Trust materials supports planning throughout the school (<https://www.hamilton-trust.org.uk>).

You can find out more about our curriculum by contacting the school, by reading the curriculum letters published termly on this site or by visiting the Government National Curriculum website (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum>).

The school works closely with parents to support children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities to ensure pupils have full access to the curriculum. We work closely with outside agencies to support pupils where necessary. Early identification and appropriate intervention is used to support children throughout the school.

