



James Peacock
Infant & Nursery School

Curriculum Statement
2023-2024

Every child is recognised and encouraged to be their own person, we celebrate each child as a unique individual here at James Peacock. The journey of learning starts with the ability to understand and recall basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values. Our curriculum design ensures that we provide opportunities which truly hook children into their learning. In Nursery and Reception we believe strongly in following our children's interests as we design and adapt the curriculum achieving a balance between adult guided activities and child initiated exploration. We understand here at James Peacock the importance of ensuring children are engaged and excited for their learning. We promote positive attitudes to learning through our PROUD values, these reflect the values and skills needed to promote dedication to learning and future success.

Our curriculum has been designed to:-

- recognise and build on children's prior learning
- provide first-hand memorable learning experiences
- Encourage and provide opportunities for children to work collaboratively
- build resilience and determination
- become creative, critical thinkers.

We are so lucky in Ruddington to have a tight knit community and excellent links with the junior school- St Peters. We want to ensure that children leave James Peacock with a sense of belonging to our community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, and become lifelong learners.

Our curriculum offers a wide range of inspiring, engaging and exploratory learning experiences, that includes developing cultural capital through planned activities. We aim to raise pupils' aspirations by teaching them about human creativity and achievement using role models that they have heard of. We strive to help our pupils understand the impact we have on the world we live in, not just at school, but as educated citizens, not just within their own community but on a wider global scale, in turn to show readiness to live in Modern Britain and beyond.

We have engaged all members of our community in the building of our curriculum. We have moved away from an 'Off the Shelf' Curriculum to building something we are really proud of. This curriculum is built using the key components of what we want children to learn and achieve in order to prepare them for the next stage of their educational journey, coupled with the National curriculum and key documents which guide and support planning and delivery of the curriculum.

Curriculum Organisation

Our curriculum builds the essential knowledge and skills for our children to ultimately ensure that they know more and remember more with opportunities to revisit, question and extend their learning on their education journey from Nursery to year 2.

The following subjects are taught thematically:

- History
- Geography
- Art
- Design Technology
- Computing
- Music

The following subjects are taught discretely:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Religious Education
- Physical Education
- PSHE

Please see our key documents we use to support the planning, delivery and monitoring of our curriculum.

-  School Long term plan
-  Reading Spines
-  Progression documents
-  Curriculum specific Intent, Implementation and Impact documents

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum framework ensures that all pupils access a broad and balanced, progressive, knowledge rich curriculum based around the requirements of all subjects of the National Curriculum and EYFS framework. Our curriculum framework intends to allow contextual barriers to learning to be overcome, ensuring that all children are able to fulfil their potential and be the very best they can be.

As a collective we analysed what we wanted our curriculum to achieve for our specific context of children. We have used the expertise and passions to create a curriculum we believe encourages children to ask questions and aspire to be the best version of themselves in an environment which celebrates each individual for what they bring to our school.

Improve vocabulary and use this as a foundation to ask questions from;

We understand that, in order to know more, acquiring, using and understanding words is imperative to help unlock the path to becoming knowledge rich (VOCABULARY). Our curriculum includes high quality texts that are carefully selected to both engage and promote reading for pleasure and vocabulary acquisition. Throughout our curriculum we focus on the learning and understanding of carefully selected words with the intention of growing our pupils' vocabulary.

Celebrate diversity

The curriculum is the means by which we ensure that all our children get their fair share of the rich cultural heritage that they are entitled to. A strong curriculum empowers children with knowledge that will both nourish them and the society of which they are members (DIVERSITY). Our curriculum promotes diversity through the study and celebration of a wide range of cultures and people.

Raise aspiration

Our curriculum aims to inspire our pupils (ASPIRATION) and offers them the opportunity to learn about all that the world has to offer them. We study significant people, both contemporary and from the past, to learn what can be achieved.

Promote health and wellbeing

Through our curriculum offer, our pupils will understand the importance of and learn how to lead healthy lifestyles – both with regard to their physical and mental wellbeing. (WELL-BEING)

Curriculum Implementation

Learning is designed to link concepts, ideas, skills and knowledge both vertically and horizontally. This enables learners to revisit, accumulate and build on their knowledge as they progress through school. We aim to make our pupils knowledge rich, knowing more and remembering more, as they move through school.

Key features of our curriculum implementation include:

- Our ethos is based around our PROUD Values of Perseverance, Respect, Opportunities, United, and Determination. These values are embedded across our curriculum and, alongside assemblies, theme weeks, enrichment opportunities and our Talking Points curriculum, provide our children with a rich framework that promotes the values, attitudes and behaviours vital to living in a modern society.
- Many of our units of learning are based around a 'key question', with subsequent questions generated to challenge our pupils' thinking and deepen learning.
- We strive to provide high quality, first-hand experiences in and out of school and build visits and inspirational visitors into our curriculum. Where appropriate, these visitors are subsidised as we recognise the importance in widening our pupils' knowledge and improving cultural capital.
- Units of learning are underpinned by the study of high quality texts to ensure that pupils have a wide range of reading experiences and a sound knowledge of books and stories. Phonics teaching has a high priority in Foundation Stage and Year One. Throughout school, another key priority is developing vocabulary across the curriculum, both in everyday speech and in writing.

- We believe in supporting pupils' growing depth of knowledge and mastery of subject specific skills by providing a progression map across all subject areas. Both the key knowledge and skills are clearly mapped out to ensure a progressive and suitably challenging curriculum across all subjects. Curriculum maps and knowledge organisers are used in conjunction with regular communication on class dojo and the long term plan to embed units of work and provide a stimulus for parents to talk to their children about their learning.
- We encourage parental involvement through our parent events such as a phonics evening and open mornings, class stories and 'stay and play' sessions. These provide opportunities to deepen our parents' understanding of our curriculum and promote the concept of parents as partners in education.
- Our teachers have good subject knowledge of the subjects they teach and will be encouraged to refine their knowledge and skills through attending training, sharing best practice and undertaking research. Subject leaders will provide colleagues with effective support for planning, resourcing and teaching.

Ultimately, our school curriculum is the way in which we aim to fulfil our school vision– and the means to make learning come alive for all our children.

Curriculum Impact

The intended impact of our curriculum framework is that:

- By the end of each year group, and ultimately by the end of each key stage, children are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary for the next stage of their education. This is reflected in the results that are achieved at the end of Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage one.
- Our pupils demonstrate a thirst for learning and a desire to know more. They have a rich vocabulary which they use to understand and interpret the world around them.
- Our pupils are respectful, resilient, confident, individuals who act with morality and kindness. They are able to make and maintain positive relationships both now and in the future.
- Our pupils demonstrate aspirations for the future and know that these can be realised by hard work and determination.
- Our pupils reach their potential and grow up being able to lead fulfilling, healthy lifestyles. They show respect for and make a positive contribution to the world in which they live.