



Pickering Community Junior School

Curriculum statement

Intent

At Pickering Community Junior School, we aim to provide a broad, balanced, creative and engaging curriculum that will inspire our children to aspire and encourage learning to become a lifelong habit. Our curriculum has been carefully planned and organised to ensure that learning in all areas of the curriculum is sequential and purposeful. Our curriculum not only incorporates the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum but also celebrates the ideas and experiences of every learner in our school, as well as our local context, enabling our children to become confident, responsible and independent learners. Through our curriculum, we aim to develop children's caring, creative and critical thinking skills through an ethos of 'To Care', where we champion tolerance, ownership, community, aspiration, resilience and empathy within every subject. Our curriculum is inclusive and through careful, personalised and subject specific adaptations, all children achieve within our curriculum design.

Using Cornerstones, our learning is organised thematically as we believe individual disciplines often influence each other. Presenting knowledge in an interconnected way, reflects the complexities of the world in which we live and teaching through big ideas leads to deeper learning and more effective understanding. We intend learning experiences to be immersive and provide opportunities to develop strategies for effective learning. However, an understanding of the skills and knowledge required for separate disciplines is essential, therefore the integrity of each individual curriculum subject is maintained within our curriculum.

In terms of pedagogy, our project-based approach starts with an activity to engage interest and curiosity. Curriculum maps, expectations and ideas for learning at home are shared with parents and carers to strengthen the partnership between home and school. Through high quality teaching and support, our pupils then develop the skills and knowledge required within each area of the curriculum. Opportunities to develop effective learning strategies, such as elaboration, dual coding and interleaving, are provided in order to help learning 'stick'. Our subject leaders have ensured a sequential progression of both substantive and disciplinary knowledge which builds upon each year of learning. Substantive knowledge is the specific, factual content for each subject, which is connected into a careful sequence and disciplinary knowledge is subject specific procedural knowledge (knowing how to, as opposed to knowing what).

Once the relevant skills and knowledge are secure, children are given the opportunity to innovate and apply them as they become immersed in creative tasks. At the end of each theme, children, parents and carers are encouraged to express, reflect, celebrate and value all our successes.

Additionally, our curriculum has the particular Cultural Capital needs we have identified for the pupils of Pickering Community Junior School woven through it to enhance and personalise our children's learning experience. We strive to enrich our teaching through visitors and visits, 'theme days' and experiences of learning outside the classroom.

This approach not only helps prepare our children for the future, but it enriches the daily life for everyone at Pickering Community Junior School, teaching us to understand, enjoy and respect the differences in our community and the wider world.

Big ideas



Humankind

Understanding what it means to be human and how human behaviour has shaped the world.



Processes

Understanding the many dynamic and physical processes that shape the world.



Creativity

Understanding the creative process and how everyday and exceptional creativity can shape the world.



Place and space

Understanding the visual, cultural, social, and environmental aspects of places around the world.



Investigation

Understanding the importance of investigation and how this has led to significant change in the world.



Comparison

Understanding how and why things are the same or different.



Materials

Understanding the properties of all matter, living and non-living.



Significance

Understanding why significant people, places, events and inventions matter and how they have shaped the world.



Nature

Understanding the complexities of the plant and animal species that inhabit the world.



Change

Understanding why and how things have changed over time.

Mission statement

School Vision:

At Pickering Community Junior School, we work together to ensure that all children reach their full potential in a happy, caring and respectful environment. It is our intention to provide a wide range of learning opportunities in a secure and challenging environment, which develop and extend the key thinking and learning skills of all our children. At Pickering Community Junior School, we support each and every child to achieve to the very best of their abilities because we believe that education is our greatest liberator. We aim to provide a dynamic and engaging 21st century curriculum, which will help our pupils to grow up to be knowledgeable, independent, adaptable and responsible people, and prepare them for a world in which the only constant is change.

School Aims:

- To provide outstanding teaching that motivates and challenges all children through a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum.
- To provide a caring, safe and secure environment in which each child is encouraged to lead a healthy lifestyle, feel valued and develop high self esteem.
- To help children develop lively and enquiring minds and to equip them with the attitudes, skills and knowledge to learn independently and become life-long learners.
- To create a sense of responsibility for one's own behaviour and the welfare of others.
- To ensure our children are safe, including online, and are ready for the challenges the future may face.
- To underpin all of our learning with the key concept of 'To Care'.
- To promote a successful partnership between school, home and the wider community.
- To ensure equality of opportunity for all.
- To encourage children, parents, governors and other agencies to work in partnership to realise the aims of the school.

General principles

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- experience the challenge and enjoyment of learning
- develop new skills through a variety of interesting contexts
- develop a rich and deep subject knowledge
- develop and demonstrate their creativity
- understand the purpose and value of their learning and see its relevance to their past, present and future
- see clear links between different aspects of their learning

SMSC/FBV

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- Spiritual - Explore beliefs, experience and faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity and reflect on experiences
- Moral - Recognise right and wrong and respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues and offer reasoned views
- Social - Use a range of social skills to participate in the local community and beyond; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict
- Cultural - Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity
- Democracy - Be part of a system where everyone plays an equal part
- Individual liberty - Be free to express views or ideas
- Rule of law - Learn that all people and institutions are subject to and accountable for their actions and behaviour
- Tolerance and respect - To respect and tolerate the opinions or behaviour of others

Well-being

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- learn in a peaceful and supportive environment
- develop self-esteem and confidence in their abilities
- learn how to respect themselves and others

Well-being

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- work in a range of groups and settings
- build respectful friendships

Pupil voice

Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- make a positive contribution to the school and local community
- make choices about things that are important to them
- take part in democratic activities across the curriculum
- take part in age-appropriate discussions
- express their opinions on a range of different topics and issues

Pedagogy

Our curriculum will be taught through a pedagogy that:

- excites, promotes and sustains children's interest
- enables and fosters children's natural curiosity
- enables children to reflect on and evaluate their learning
- promotes problem solving, creativity and communication

Enrichment

We will enrich our curriculum by:

- offering opportunities for children to learn outdoors
- using quality resources in and out of the classroom
- providing on and off-site subject or topic related activities
- developing partnerships with external providers that extend children's opportunities for learning
- welcoming parents and carers to take part in children's learning and experiences
- holding specialist curriculum days or weeks