



The aim of Neston Primary School is to be a warm, welcoming and busy school where the pupils are happy, well-rounded and effective learners and citizens.

Curriculum Intent

Our school will provide opportunities for children to develop as independent, confident, successful learners who know how to make a positive contribution to their school, community and the wider society. There is a high focus on developing children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding.

The curriculum will equip children to engage in the world now and in the future. The children will be given the opportunity to build their resilience, knowledge and to develop their skills in a meaningful and contextual way.

Pupils at all levels are helped to achieve their potential. Those who are most able are challenged and supported through appropriate extension activities. Those who struggle are encouraged and given targeted support to embed skills, to develop at their own pace or simply to learn in a style that best suits their individual needs.

The links with parents is key. We will achieve very little without the support of our parents working with us as valued partners.

The school's focus on curriculum development has been carefully designed to ensure coverage and progression. It provides pupils with memorable experiences, in addition to diverse and rich opportunities from which children can learn and develop a range of transferable skills for life.

We want pupils to be active learners and to fully engage in all subjects. Pupils will have access to a wealth of resources and role models which will inspire learning and make learning enjoyable and memorable.

Reading, writing, maths and oracy are key as they are the foundations for learning in all other curriculum areas. Opportunities are provided to enable all children to speak with confidence in a wide range of situations.

Our curriculum will build upon children's prior knowledge and develop their skills in a meaningful and contextual way. Children will be given opportunities to make links between what they know and what they want to know.

A primary focus of our curriculum is to raise aspirations and to recognise and develop the talents and strengths that every child has, so that they can fulfil their potential. We provide activities that children may not otherwise experience.

As a school, we are proud of our community and it is frequently used as a starting point for engaging interest. We recognise that the children need both a sense of valuing themselves, and developing aspirations for their future and for their community. We will widen the children's knowledge and understanding of people, places and points of view – which will give them a greater understanding of the wide diversity encountered in modern society.

Subject leaders play an important part in the success of the curriculum by leading a regular programme of monitoring, evaluation and review. They each collate evidence in subject leaders' files and regularly hold pupil interviews in order to check on knowledge and skill acquisition. Subjects are planned to ensure progression of knowledge and skills across school. The curriculum design ensures that the needs of individual and small groups of children can be met within the environment of high quality first wave teaching, supported by interventions where appropriate. In this way it can be seen to impact in a very positive way on pupil outcomes.

Enjoyment of the curriculum promotes achievement, confidence and good behaviour. High quality visits and visitors enhance the curriculum and provide opportunities for writing for a purpose.

To promote physical health and well-being, a range of extra-curricular clubs gives learners an opportunity to access a variety of sports clubs before, during or after school hours. Our PSHE work provides children with opportunities to discuss and learn about personal health, wellbeing, safety, relationships (including anti-bullying work), differences and aspirations.

The school curriculum offers our children the chance to raise questions, discuss important issues, learn to listen to others' views and share their own thoughts.

Our diversity work helps children to realise that everyone is special and unique and we should celebrate differences and different kinds of families.

The pastoral support given to children, so they can access the curriculum, is very strong. Various forms of support are provided for children where a need has been identified such as self-esteem, anger management and bereavement.

Our Principles for Learning and Teaching

- All children are entitled to be engaged in their learning and to be active learners; discovering and finding out.
- All children are entitled to understand what they have achieved and know what to do to make progress.
- All children are entitled to be independent, enthusiastic and self-motivated learners; raising their own questions.
- All children are entitled to time to evaluate and reflect on their learning.
- All children are entitled to teaching that inspires their learning.
- All children are entitled to teaching that encourages them to be creative.
- All children are entitled to be challenged and enjoy learning, as well as encouraging problem solving.
- All children are entitled to develop spiritually, morally and as members of their community and the wider community

The School Curriculum

Maths

At Neston Primary, we believe that mathematics should be fun and rewarding for all children. As such we endeavour to make our work in mathematics engaging for all learners.

We start every day with Early Bird maths (with the exception of Reception, where Early Bird is Literacy based). For fifteen minutes we focus on a number of arithmetic questions to reinforce and consolidate the arithmetic skills that have been previously taught. We believe that this plays an important role in the children becoming fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics and develops the children's ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately. 15 minutes a day, for 5 days a week, 39 weeks a year equates to over 48 hours extra maths done outside the Maths sessions.

Our curriculum is built upon the White Rose Maths Hub scheme of learning adapted for the needs of our pupils alongside the NCETM spine. We focus on a progression from concrete resources, to pictorial representations and finally into the numerical abstract to aid our children's conceptual understanding.

Times Tables Rockstars is used in years 2-6 to develop their times tables skills in a fun, challenging manner. We celebrate achievements in our weekly champion assemblies. As a result of playing the games, we are seeing pupils' speeds reducing with some individuals across KS2 faster than a second. In KS1, the pupils play Numbots which is an online game to develop number bonds.

English

At Neston Primary, we believe that our reading lessons should enable children to access all areas of the curriculum. As such we endeavour to make sure our reading lessons are engaging for all learners, and that children develop a love of reading.

Our English curriculum is following Pathways to Write (The Literacy Company). It is built around reading and writing skills through the mastery approach. The units, for use with pupils from EYFS to Y6, provide clear detailed lesson plans and resources, linked to high-quality texts to ensure engaging and purposeful English lessons, which ensures progression across school. Effective teaching strategies to challenge greater depth writers are included within each unit of work.

History

At Neston Primary School, we shape our history curriculum to ensure it encompasses the need of each individual child and our local area is also celebrated with its own rich history as a feature of the school. Topics across school are governed by the National Curriculum 2014, with a wide coverage that develops knowledge, thinking and understanding. The children will learn about particular events, characters and time periods but they also should have a chronological understanding, in order to make links between events. We aim to inspire pupil's curiosity to know more about the past through delivering high-quality lessons that encourage children to ask perceptive questions, think critically and to explore evidence.

We then hope the children will have the confidence to have their own viewpoint and challenge those of others. The pupil's learning experience will also be enhanced by trips and visiting experts being organised by the class teachers. In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning, the children should have a full understanding of British History, from the Stone Age to the present day, ensuring progression of the key skills.

In EYFS, we follow the 'Development Matters', which aims for all children in reception to have an 'understanding of the World.' Progression will be evidenced by the children's history books that will move up with them throughout their time at school. Children at Neston Primary will be fully equipped with the skills and knowledge to see them through to KS3 and future life experiences.

Design Technology

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Design and Technology encourages children to learn to think and intervene. At Neston Primary School, we encourage children to use their creativity and imagination, to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. We aim to, wherever possible, link work to other disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. The children are also given opportunities to reflect upon and evaluate past and present design technology, its uses and its effectiveness and are encouraged to become innovators and risk-takers.

Art and Design

At Neston Primary School, we value Art and Design as an important part of the children's entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum. Art and Design provides the children with the opportunities to develop and extend skills and an opportunity to express their individual interests, thoughts and ideas. Art, craft and design embody some of the highest forms of human creativity. At Neston Primary School we aim to deliver high-quality art and design education which inspires and challenges pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design.

Our art curriculum is regularly reflected on and improved – most recently in Summer 2020. Progression should be evident throughout each unit of work and between year groups. Art and design work is evidenced and explored in portfolios where children are provided with stimulating opportunities to develop their skills and experiment with their own creative ideas. The art curriculum has links to other curriculum areas to promote depth of knowledge and understanding.

As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.

RE and SMSC

Our RE curriculum is designed to meet the content requirements of the agreed syllabus. We use the CWAC syllabus – incorporating various world religions, humanism and atheism. There is a set amount of time specified in the agreed syllabus for each religion.

Through our sessions, children should be able to access their keywords to help them to discuss, recall knowledge and understand religion in society. Specific skills for Religious Education will have been developed including;

KS1

- retelling religious stories
- recognising symbols
- sharing my opinions
- asking questions
- responding positively to differences and similarities
- KS2
- making connections between words of wisdom
- can reflect on their own values and those of a believer
- can understand different ways of life and ways to express meaning
- can ask and have the skills to answer, ultimate and ethical questions from their viewpoint and that of a believer
- discuss issues and support the development of community cohesion whilst challenging prejudice

Our ongoing skills development include Critical Thinking, Religious Tolerance, Investigation, Interpretation, Reflection, Evaluation, Analysis, Synthesis, Application, Expression, Self Understanding, Communication, Problem Solving.

Our developing attitudes in religion and world views include Self Esteem, Curiosity, Fairness, Respect, Empathy, Wonder, Open-mindedness, Working with others, Sense of Community.

There are many opportunities for PSHE through class circle times, and throughout diversity weeks and SMSC syllabus. We follow the 'No Outsiders' works suggested by

Andrew Moffat. We also follow My Happy Mind to help with mental health and wellbeing.

Following the first COVID lock down (March 2020-September 2020) we used various texts and resources to welcome pupils back and ensure that mental health recovery was at the forefront of our curriculum. We also undertook a literacy unit which focused on BLM and positive black role models for our children.

PSHE includes Citizenship, Drugs Education, Health Education, Sex and Relationship Education alongside emotional health and wellbeing. We use the Christopher Winter project as our guidance for Sex and Relationship sessions.

Geography

At Neston Primary School, we shape our geography curriculum to ensure it encompasses the need of each individual child and to celebrate our local area. Topics across school are governed by the National Curriculum 2014, with a wide coverage that develops knowledge, thinking and understanding. The children will learn about the World's countries, major cities, climates and land use.

We aim to inspire pupil's curiosity to know more about the world through delivering high-quality lessons that encourage children to ask perceptive questions, think critically and to explore evidence. We then hope the children will have the confidence to have their own viewpoint and challenge those of others. The pupil's learning experience will also be enhanced by trips and visiting experts being organised by the class teachers. In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning, the children should have a full understanding of the World and ensuring progression of the key skills.

In EYFS, we follow the 'Development Matters', which aims for all children in reception to have an 'understanding of the World.' Progression will be evidenced by the children's geography books that will move up with them throughout their time at school. Children at Neston Primary will be fully equipped with the skills and knowledge to see them through to KS3 and future life experiences.

Physical Education

At Neston Primary School, we shape our PE curriculum to ensure it encompasses the need of each individual child and that we promote active, healthy children. We want our children to be actively engaged in PE lessons and to choose a healthy lifestyle. We aim for children to be inspired to succeed and excel in competitive sport and in physically demanding activities as governed by the National Curriculum 2014. The children will learn about a variety of sports, team games and they will aim to achieve a personal challenge.

We aim to inspire pupil's curiosity to know more about the different sports and its impact on our bodies through delivering high-quality lessons that encourage children to try new sports. The pupil's learning experience will also be enhanced by sports coaches and visiting experts delivering lessons across both key stages. In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning, the children should apply and develop skills which they can link into a sequence of movements.

In EYFS, we follow the 'Development Matters', which aims for all children in reception to have an 'Moving and Handling.' Progression will be evidenced in the class big book and school PE wall. Children at Neston Primary will be fully equipped with the enthusiasm and ability to want to keep fit and healthy as well as to enjoy sports.

Music

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- Be taught to sing, create and compose music
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated

At Neston Primary it is our intent to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music. Through singing songs together, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music and give them the opportunity to listen to live performances. Children will be encouraged to explore and express ideas and feelings about music, in a variety of ways including through Art and Dance. They will learn how to play both tuned and un-tuned percussion and will be taught how to identify a range of musical elements. We intend to nurture their talent as musicians and to encourage them to work in groups to compose, evaluate and perform music. Our aim is to increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

Science

Science teaching at Neston Primary aims to stimulate and excite pupils' curiosity about the world around them. Every child will have the opportunity to observe, explore and ask questions whilst acquiring specific skills and knowledge to help them think, investigate and answer them scientifically. They will be encouraged to gain an understanding of scientific processes and also an understanding of the uses and implications of Science, today and for the future.

Computing

At Neston Primary School we believe that all children are entitled to a broad and balanced Computing Curriculum that has been designed to fulfil the requirements of the 2014 National Curriculum. It is our intent that pupils leave NPS as digitally literate citizens who can participate safely and creatively in an increasingly digital world.

This will be achieved through teaching a curriculum that engages and challenges children across the three strands of Computer Science, IT and Digital Literacy.

Children will develop the skills of logical thinking, decomposition and de-bugging (problem solving) when analysing and designing their own algorithms and programmes. They will begin to understand how computer systems and networks operate and the difference between the internet and the world wide web. Alongside the units on programming the children in KS2 participate in the International Hour of Code in December.

The children of NPS will learn how to be safe in a digital world and how to be respectful users of technology. We follow the **South West Grid for Learning** e-safety scheme and participate in Safer Internet Day every February.

The children will learn to use IT creatively and affectively as part of their learning across the curriculum. As well as the specific IT skills taught as part of the Computing curriculum, all children will have the opportunity to produce multi-media projects to present their learning in other curriculum areas. This will be achieved through the use of computers and iPads.

MFL – Spanish

At Neston Primary School our Spanish curriculum is designed to develop children's skills in languages, through regular taught lessons across KS2.

Our intent is for children to develop a curiosity about other languages and cultures and to provide them with the skills, confidence and interest to successfully continue their studies in Key Stage 3 and as global citizens.

There is a balance of both spoken and written skills which progresses from simple phrases and sentences to short passages. Children acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary organised around topics. The children will learn about the people and culture of Spain and other Spanish speaking countries.