

# Crossflatts

**PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**OUR CURRICULUM**

# The Crossflatts Curriculum

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Crossflatts Centric Lights the learning fire Rigour Ambitious Inclusive  
Coherent, progressive and logical Enriching going above and beyond

Our curriculum has been significantly reviewed and has evolved in the past two years with all subjects having very clear progression pathways from Early Years using the National Curriculum as its basis. The sequential nature of our curriculum supports our teaching staff with curriculum content, sequence of learning and their pedagogy.

Our curriculum intent is clearly articulated and teachers have a firm and common understanding of our curriculum and what it means in practise.

Whole-school approaches to teaching and learning have been developed in English, Maths and Science which precisely meet the needs of the pupils in the school and are implemented consistently in all classes. Our curriculum offer has been restructured in order to support our children's recovery from the disruptions of the pandemic over recent years.

Reading is highly prioritised by all leaders and has a high profile in school. Reading books are precisely matched to pupil's phonic knowledge to enable our children to gain phonic knowledge quickly so they are able to read confidently and achieve in line with the national average when they take their phonic screen. We quickly identify gaps in fluency and gaps are addressed swiftly so that learning and progress do not stall.

Teachers' good subject knowledge and pedagogy enable them to develop well-structured sequences of learning as a result our children's work is consistently of a high quality.

Our progressive approach to teaching the non-core curriculum ensures our children can build on what they have been taught before and that they have acquired all the concepts, knowledge and skills to conclude each year and Key Stage with an advantage and remain on track for their end of Key Stage goals.

Our curriculum is curated carefully to meet the needs of each age and stage in our school...



## In EYFS

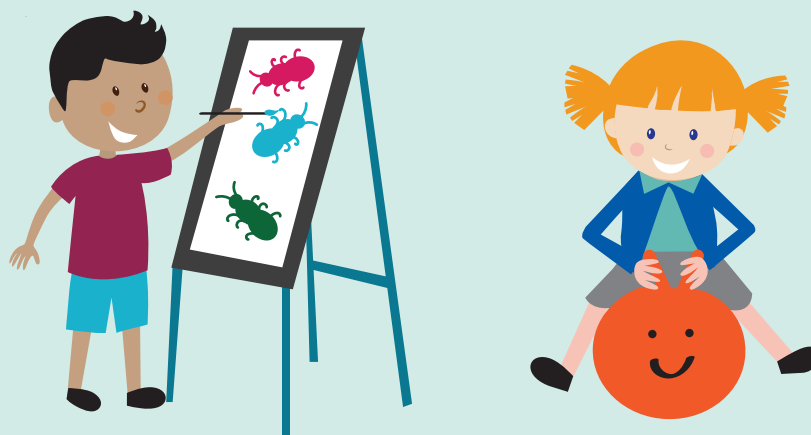
Our EYFS curriculum is the starting point of all learning. We are the engine room of our school. It promotes and supports an enabling environment, allowing our children to learn and develop according to their individual needs. We actively ensure our curriculum bends and flex's according to the interests of our children, the nature of the cohort and the natural changes that occur through the seasonal and academic year. Through careful planning and imaginative teaching we provide a breadth and depth of memorable opportunities that instil a lifelong love of learning.

We are clear in our minds that every child in the early years foundation stage is a unique child whose individual needs are responded to and catered for. This ensures every child makes good progress and no child is left behind. Our youngest children can utilise the provision on offer to assemble the knowledge and skills they already have to set the trajectory of their learning and remain on track for their end of key Stage goals.

Reading is at the heart of all we do. Our children follow the rigorous and highly successful Read, Write Inc program faithfully so that they achieve strong outcomes. Phonics teaching goes hand in hand with daily exposure to a high quality range of books that are carefully selected to hook our children in and expose them to a variety of texts through the curriculum.

We follow the structure of the white Rose maths approach in the EYFS with an emphasis on studying key skills of number, calculation and shape so that pupils develop deep understanding and the acquisition of mathematical language. Pupils learn through games and tasks using concrete manipulatives which are then rehearsed and applied to their own learning during exploration. These early mathematical experiences are carefully designed to help pupils remember the content they have been taught and to support them with integrating their new knowledge across the breadth of their experiences.

Our children will leave the first phase of their education as strong, independent individuals, resilient to challenge and capable of leading their own learning. They will possess highly positive attitudes and an inquisitive nature that will allow them to seamlessly move with confidence into the next phase of school, ready for year one and the National Curriculum.



## In Years 1 and 2

To aid smooth transition to the national curriculum our Year 1 children still have access to a variety of provision to continue to explore and discover new ideas but to also embed their previous learning. However, over the course of the year, the children will work in a more formal, structured context allowing us to meet the needs, demands and rigour of our curriculum offer.

Children will continue to expand on their phonic knowledge with daily RWI lessons. They will gain further independence in writing composition using a variety of texts in all subjects, which allows the knowledge our children acquire in each subject to expand alongside continuing to develop the core skills needed for our children to be successful learners.



In maths, children will further develop their skills using numbers over 20, and number bonds will also be reinforced and they will learn to count forwards, backwards, in 2s, 5s, 10s, 20s, and they will double and halve. Again, always learning in a fun and engaging way. They will also develop an understanding of geometry, fractions and time and be able to apply all these skills to reason and problem solve.

There are a wide range of topics covered in Year 1 which allow our children to develop a zest for knowledge in all subjects. These include undertaking experiments in science, product design in DT, learning about the lives of significant figures in history and in geography exploring the local area we live in, deepening our children's understanding of their place in the world. Subjects such as RE and PSHE are taught through our bespoke cultural capital curriculum ensuring our children are equipped with the social and emotional skills for success.

The final year of KS1, Year 2, will see your child being encouraged to work more independently.

We teach a broad and carefully designed sequence of learning, where our children are exposed to the full breadth of an engaging and knowledge rich curriculum, while ensuring that the core skills remain the key focus of our learning. For example, children will learn about achievements of people in the past, begin to develop geographical knowledge of their locality and beyond, building on the learning they obtained in Year 1. Through all areas of our learning, we are supported by our Character and Culture Compass, which strengthens our children's personal development, as well as furthering their academic success.

In English, the children will continue to develop and refine the phonics they began in Year 1, aiming to read words by sight without having to sound them out. They will learn further spelling patterns and rules, and begin to apply those in their writing. There will be a more detailed focus on handwriting, with children encouraged to use correct letter formation, learn which letters are to be joined and make letters a consistent size. Children will learn to write for a range of purposes including stories, poetry and real events, with an increasing awareness of the reader.

Grammar is an important topic in Year 2 and children are expected to understand the following terms: noun, adjective, adverb, suffix, subordination, noun phrase, past tense, capital letter, full stop compound sentence, and expanded noun phrase. They will be taught to spot these in their reading and begin to use them in their written work.

Mathematics in Year 2 focuses on the 2, 5, and 10 times tables, and they will learn multiplication and division facts for these tables. Children will also learn to add and subtract with one- and two-digit numbers. When learning about fractions, they will find  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a shape or a quantity of objects. They will also have the opportunity to study measures, including weight, capacity, and length, and they will learn to tell the time to five minute intervals. The new curriculum 'mastery' style of teaching concentrates on breadth of knowledge, and children will be encouraged to use their understanding of the new concepts to solve increasingly complex challenges, which will deepen their understanding.

Science in Year 2 is engaging and fun. Expect your child to learn about living things and their habitats, plants, animals (including humans), and uses of everyday materials. They will also learn how to work scientifically, how to observe closely, and how to record their observations.



## In Year 3 and 4:

The move to Key Stage 2 allows your child to engage in an increasingly broad and balanced curriculum, with reduced focus on phonics and early maths and reading. The children will start to develop their knowledge of History, Geography, Science and other subjects, which are only covered in KS2, like French.

Furthermore, there will be greater emphasis on understanding and learning spelling rules and importantly, in maths, children will be using more formal methods of calculation than in previous years.

Most children will have finished their phonics scheme of learning and will be focussing on specific spellings and spelling patterns. They will read a greater range of genres – both fiction and non-fiction. They will be learning more complicated grammar and punctuation and will be putting it all together as they write a range of text types.

By Year 3, children will be on the way to becoming increasingly confident, more independent readers. Many children who have mastered phonics and word-reading will shift their focus onto developing their comprehension skills. Children's relationship with books will begin to change as they can now read for pleasure – fiction and non-fiction – or to find information they need and this continues to develop in Year 4.

In Mathematics, children will continue to develop their understanding of numbers and start to calculate using formal written methods. Continuing with the mastery approach to mathematics, they will learn a lot more about fractions, including tenths, perimeters of 2D shapes, using the 24-hour clock, recognise angles, and start to use bar charts.

In Year 3 and 4, there are some engaging science topics that children love, such as food chains, sound, electricity, and rocks and soils. Interesting and engaging history and geography topics are also taught in Year 3 and 4. These include the Stone Age, the Romans, Majestic Mountains and the Ancient Greeks at some point. These are subjects that fire the imagination and that children remember. In maths and English, the teachers will be aiming to ensure that children know and understand particular key skills including apostrophes, commas, times tables, and key spellings.

Overall, perhaps the single most important aspect of Year 3 and 4 is the children's increasing independence and confidence in what they are able to achieve at school. Children are encouraged to start to think about their own learning and progress. They are encouraged to make decisions on how to present work, how and when to complete homework, and how to learn most successfully.

## In Years 5 and 6:

In Upper Key Stage 2, teachers nurture and encourage the feelings of independent thinking, learning and decision making. Throughout our topics, we will build on the learning that has come previously, developing the children's knowledge across the subjects to given them a strong foundation for their transition to secondary school. We continue to fire the imagination with topics that children remember long after completing their Crossflatts journey, as well as making lasting links between the areas of the curriculum.

In Maths and English, we ensure that the children are secure in their core skills, as well as being able to apply their knowledge and understanding to new areas of learning. We promote independence when it comes to writing, making choices that will excite and engage the reader, whilst also using precision and accuracy in the essentials. Children are also encouraged to edit and adapt their work – developing their skills further in the craft of writing for a range of audiences and purposes. Throughout Year 5 and 6, the children will read a wide range of engaging and challenging texts and will refine their reading preferences.

In Maths, the children will be taught to use the most efficient strategy and to evaluate different ways of approaching problems. They will explore broader mathematical concepts such as percentages, algebra, and ratio, again aiming to master these concepts effectively and deeply. The stamina and focus that is required to persevere and grapple with more and more complex problems is also a key target for the children in Year 5 and 6.

Our final important aspect of UKS2 is developing and increasing children's independence, curiosity, self-motivation and confidence in what they can achieve at school before they finish their primary journey. Through our curriculum and our Crossflatts Compass, we also strive to create well-rounded individuals who care for each other, understand the world around them and can keep themselves safe and happy.

