



Curriculum Policy for Primary

Revised: July 2018

Review Date: July 2020

Responsible: SLT

Our curriculum policy supports our aims, mission and values.

Inquisitive minds 🧐, *creative hands* ✋, *caring hearts* ❤️.

We Aim for Every Child to

- Keep safe and feel secure
- Be healthy and happy
- Enjoy school and feel positive about learning
- Achieve their potential
- Develop strong social skills and emotional well-being

Our Mission Statement

- Our school environment is welcoming and friendly.
- We are positive role models and lead by example.
- We are all learners and we work as a team.
- We innovate, inspire, challenge and have fun!
- We empower others to do and to become the best they can.
- We have high expectations and believe we can!

Our Core Values



Curriculum Policy

Introduction

At Caxton College we follow the Programme of Study for the 2014 National Curriculum for England. Where appropriate this has been adapted to meet the geographical needs of our pupils. We strongly believe that our pupils will be most successful as adults having had creativity and independent learning at the heart of their education and therefore all subjects, except Maths are taught through a creative curriculum. Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education is embedded within this to ensure that pupils become responsible, emotionally intelligent, global citizens. Pupils also follow the Spanish Curriculum for Spanish Language and Social Studies and Valencian language. Where possible, this is integrated into the topics.

The Creative Curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to develop our Core Skills and Values as well as their knowledge and understanding.

The Curriculum will be

- Buzzing
- Relevant
- Academic
- Vocational
- Evaluative (AfL)

There is a whole school long term plan of topics.

Each topic will have a Critical Path which is created by the year group team.

Topics will 'flow' across all subject areas with skills combined where possible to reach the 'Exit Point'. Timetables will be flexible to allow for this.

Entry points will create an emotional hook and 'Fascinators' will maintain interest within the topic. Exit points give purpose and relevance to each topic.

Could we develop projects which include?

- Enterprise or business (team-work)
- P4C (Critical Thinking)
- Improving part of the school
- Making links with another year group
- A performance or product for for the school (newspaper, museum, concert)
- A SEAL focus (EI)

There will be an emphasis on talk with opportunities for children to develop good vocabulary and grammar for each subject.

Team planning with specialist teachers will ensure that topics draw on the skills and knowledge from all relevant subject areas.

Writing and sometimes foundation subjects will be taught through Talk for Writing and Grammar for T4W.

There will be opportunities for each year group to take their learning outdoors, hear an inspirational speaker, visit a museum or a natural environment.

Creative Curriculum Vision

Our Core Skills

- Communication
- Digital Literacy
- Team-work
- Problem Solving
- Emotional Intelligence
- Global Citizenship
- Self-managing
- Critical Thinking

Our Core Values

- Positivity
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Resilience
- Integrity

Imaginative minds, creative hands, caring hearts

The topics will cover the statutory requirements of the 2014 National Curriculum with a focus on key skills for each subject. Art and DT will be project based.

Pupils will initiate some of the learning by saying what they want to learn during the topic.

Progress will be measured using mind-maps (or similar) at the start and the end of each topic.

Technology will be fully integrated and will enhance opportunities for creativity and choice.

Creativity and independent learning will be integral to each topic, providing appropriate challenge for all learners.

Planning

All planning is completed using school planning forms and is in line with the Creative Curriculum Vision.

Long Term Planning

The school has a Whole School Creative Curriculum Topic Plan which outlines the topics and Programme of Study Units from Nursery to Year 6. Topics vary in length depending on the age of the pupils and the opportunities for learning within the topic. Topics may be Science, History or Geography based and although each Programme of Study is covered over the course of the year, all subjects will not necessarily be taught in each topic. The Creative Curriculum Topic Plan is annotated by class, Spanish and Specialist teachers over the course of the year and updated ready for the following academic year. Year groups must clear any major changes with SLT and be aware of what other year groups teach (texts and topics) to avoid repetition.

Medium Term Planning

Year Groups complete Creative Path plans for each topic which give some detail about what children will learn in each subject week by week. This includes specialist subjects and Spanish to give a clear overview of how all subjects support the cross-curricular approach. Team planning is strongly encouraged and Creative Path plans must be updated annually and completed by deadlines shown on the school calendar.

Creative Path plans must include:

- The topic name
- Events, trips, inspirational visitors, workshops, Theme Days (Fascinators)
- Holidays
- Whole school events such as International Day
- Entry and Exit Points
- Programme of Study Units
- A brief explanation of coverage for each subject taught
- Talk for Writing Texts and / or genre
- SEAL Unit and Core Value

Short Term Planning

Weekly planning is completed for English, Science and foundation subjects (including specialists). Year groups may choose to integrate Science and foundation subjects into one Creative Curriculum weekly plan. Otherwise, they may complete weekly plans by subject. Twinkl Planit is used for Maths and this is adapted and annotated to meet the needs of the year group and class. Year groups may distribute planning between the team but individual teachers should annotate planning where necessary to meet the needs of their class.

Weekly plans must include:

- The date and week
- Programme of Study objectives
- Lesson Starter
- Teaching Points
- Independent or teacher led activities
- Plenary
- Resources
- Learning Objectives
- Steps to Success (examples of Steps to Success (S2S) can be found in the Primary – General folder on Google Drive.)

Timetables and time allocation

All non-negotiable lessons in teacher's timetables are given at the start of the year. These include Music, PE, Spanish, Social Studies and Computing. In Reception Phonics is always taught first lesson and in Year 1 in the first lesson of the day with the class teacher. Teachers complete other core and foundation subjects following the school's guidelines for time allowances. Within this, timetables are flexible and may be adapted for the topic, e.g. a day of art or a theme day. Subject time allocations are also flexible depending on the subject focus for the topic e.g. a Science based topic may use all topic lessons for science coverage.

Subjects

English

English is fully integrated within the Creative Curriculum and both fiction and non-fiction texts should support learning within the topic. We are a Talk for Writing school and both fiction and non-fiction units are planned and taught using this strategy. There are whole school actions for common language such as question words, openers and connectives. Pupils should use 'talk' as much as possible to develop their spoken English.

Phonics is taught based on the letters and sounds programme, starting with Phase 1 in Nursery. Spelling is based on Read Write Inc although Year 5 and 6 are piloting the Twinkl spelling scheme.

Guided Reading is planned and taught separately from the Creative Curriculum and Bug Club planning is being introduced. We have various reading schemes such as Bug Club (including online access), Oxford Reading Tree, Floppy's Phonics, Big Cat and Fireflies. Teachers are encouraged to use a range of schemes and a balance of fiction and non-fiction. There is a level conversion chart stored in Google Drive.

Handwriting from Year 1 is the Spanish cursive style and is taught by both English and Spanish teachers.

Maths

Maths is taught discreetly using Twinkl Planit, however, it may support the topic, for example through data collection, graphs and problem solving.

Science

Science is integrated within the Creative Curriculum and for this reason there are occasions where Programmes of Study units or objectives are covered by year groups other than the one stated in the framework.

Spanish, Social Studies

These are taught by Spanish teachers in Spanish. Spanish and Social Studies are integrated within the Creative Curriculum where possible and techniques such as Talk for Writing are used where appropriate.

Foundation subjects

Foundation subjects are integrated within the Creative Curriculum.

Computing and Digital Learning

There are discreet lessons for computing although it is integrated within the Creative Curriculum. iPads are available in each year group to integrate additional digital learning into topics.

Music, PE

Music and PE are planned for and taught by specialist teachers. Where possible, links are made to the Creative Curriculum.

Religious Education and Ethics

Pupils' families choose between Ethics, delivered in English or Religion, delivered in Spanish. Both are taught by specialist teachers.

SEAL and Core Values

There are whole school start dates for each SEAL Unit and Value. Assemblies by Phase and Year Group cover many aspects of this and there are whole school events such as Anti-bullying week and Safer Internet Day.

Core Skills

We have identified core skills which we see as vital to build successful learners who become successful adults and world citizens. Skills are currently being developed and embedded within the Creative Curriculum. Some year groups teach specific skills in more depth e.g. Philosophy for Children (P4C) in Year 2 to develop Critical Thinking and Earth Hour in Year 4 develops Global Citizenship.

Marking and Assessment

Pupils' work should be marked up to date using the Marking Guidelines. Deep marking is not expected for every piece of work. Learning Objectives and Steps to Success (S2S) should be made explicitly clear to pupils each lesson and support them in independent learning and self-assessment. Sample Steps to Success are available in the teacher Resources folder. Mind maps used at the start and end of each topic should be used to show progress over in foundation subjects. Please refer to the Marking Guidelines and Assessment Policies for details.

Exercise Books

There are school exercise books appropriate to each year group and subject. These should be clearly labelled with the child's name, first surname, class, year group and subject. Completed exercise books must be kept in school during the academic year.

Enrichment

Topic enrichment

Enrichment is well embedded within topics and pupils have opportunities to hear inspirational speakers, go on educational trips and visits, participate in workshops and themed days. These may support learning in English or Spanish.

Golden Time

Year 3 – 6 pupils take part in a weekly Special Golden which are organised to enrich learning further. Teachers and specialist staff select activities such as crafts, sports and quizzes to teach to groups of pupils.

Clubs

Pupils may opt to participate in a club activity at lunch time or after school. These include Music School, Sports School, languages, Maths, art and dance and are taught by specialist clubs teachers.