



“Creating Opportunities”

Curriculum Statement 2021-2022

At Cardinal Road we offer an inspiring, engaging curriculum which is broad and balanced and builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills of all children, whatever their starting points, as they progress through each Key Stage. We have high expectations and enable the children to **Aim High, Be Kind, Work Hard with No Excuses**. The curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the EYFS statutory framework, the National Curriculum 2014 along with our curriculum drivers and the opportunities we create to incorporate the pupils’ curiosity and thirst for learning. We want the children to have ownership of their curriculum and therefore take a flexible, responsive approach.

We have established ‘**Curriculum Drivers**’ that were agreed following staff and school community consultation. These drivers reflect why the curriculum is developing as it is, in addition to how it is and shapes the way forward, providing the opportunities we offer to the children. They enable staff to prioritise curriculum content, without dismissing any parts of the statutory curriculum.

- Real Life Experiences**
- Emotional Literacy**
- The Community**

Wherever possible, throughout the curriculum, links are made to these developmental aspects giving our curriculum focus and context.

The ultimate aim of our curriculum is for pupils to have the requisite skills to be successful, independent, resilient, motivated learners who are ready for the next stage of their education. We want them to be **risk takers**, who **explore**, demonstrate **positivity**, show **respect** and build their **self-belief**.

The school has a Growth Mindset approach to learning and children are explicitly taught skills such as perseverance and resilience. The curriculum is underpinned by the school’s Aims and Values and these are taught on their own through a half termly focus and through other areas of the curriculum, including assemblies. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils and their understanding of the core British Values are woven through the curriculum.

We create a climate where children are seen as active in their learning explicitly linking physical and academic development, engaging with materials and lines of enquiry that enable them to build their knowledge and understanding through subjects that will capture their interests and stimulate their imagination. Teachers create rich contexts of discovery through a Topic approach so that pupils can enhance their learning; about themselves and the wider world, through investigation and enquiry. We believe this makes learning meaningful and lasting. Topics are introduced through inspiring launches that capture the interest of all of the children and promote a love of learning. Topics are always underpinned by the progression and sequence of skills and knowledge. Children’s interests also guide the topic planning and subsequent lessons are personalised to these. It is important that we value different ideas; listen to all points of view so that we can understand the needs and viewpoints of others around us in our school and in our wider community.

An emphasis is placed on basic skills enabling these to be successfully applied to all areas of the curriculum. From the start of the EYFS, children are exposed to a language-rich curriculum with a focus on oracy skills. The school uses “Read, Write and

Inc" in Nursery, Reception and Yr1 to ensure the children become avid readers and confident, creative writers. Children in Yr2 build on these skills and apply them in a cross curricular approach.

The mathematics curriculum has been developed internally and is taught discretely but where possible is linked to foundation subjects and topics. In mathematics, reasoning is strongly promoted to develop thinking skills. More targeted ability grouping is introduced in Year 2 and in all year groups there are small group interventions in order to support pupils in gaining the key skills to become successful mathematicians.

The school values sport and PE and uses some of the Sport Premium funding to offer children exciting and varied opportunities to take part in sports within school and in competitions against other schools.

PSHE is at the heart of our curriculum and experiences are afforded to children to develop their emotional and social learning.

Assessment for Learning is used to ensure the curriculum is responsive to every child's needs as well as guiding our future planning. The more able are challenged, their learning deepened and children who find aspects of their learning more difficult including those with EAL, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are appropriately supported so that they too are enabled to experience success. The Pupil Premium grant is used to support disadvantaged learners across the school.

The school rigorously monitors the curriculum to ensure that it has appropriate coverage, content, structure and sequencing, and that it has been implemented effectively. Swift action is taken so that all learners make progress. Cardinal Road prides itself on team work and Governors and all staff are expected to triangulate evidence to ensure the curriculum's intent, implementation and impact is exceptional.

After school clubs and events extend curriculum opportunities further. We take the children to places of interest, incorporate the local environment and invite visitors and speakers into school to provide our children with rich experiences. Additional whole school programmes and approaches support quality teaching and learning and the school is well resourced in terms of learning materials, books and technology. The outdoor environment and the local community are considered an opportunity for active learning for all our pupils.

Pupils are given opportunities to share their learning with each other, their parents, carers and other learners through class and whole school worship and events involving other schools. Developing their independence and motivation as learners and their sense of responsibility as future citizens is at the heart of all our teaching and learning. Each term we give parents/carers the opportunity to attend our Parent/Carer Consultation evenings where they can discuss their child's progress, achievements and targets. Parents/carers are also provided with a written report in the summer term and are always welcome to ask questions.

Summary

The curriculum at Cardinal Road is **Broad** as it provides the children with a wide range of knowledge, skills and experiences. It is **Balanced** as each subject has sufficient time to contribute effectively to learning. It is **Relevant** as learning links to the pupil's experience and everyday life. It is **Coherent** as Topics are linked to make the learning experiences meaningful. It is **Progressive** as skills, knowledge and understanding build upon prior learning and are sequenced. It is **Differentiated** as learning matches the needs and abilities of all pupils. It is **Accessible** as it is inclusive of all pupils regardless of their needs and abilities. It is **Compliant** to statutory and non-statutory requirements.