

Curriculum Policy

‘Removing obstacles and enabling access to learning’

The school offers a child-centred ‘needs led’ curriculum which incorporates elements of the Foundation Stage, National Curriculum and external accreditation as appropriate including Life Skills and Social Skills. The school uses Total Communication and the following as appropriate: Multi Sensory approach; Thematic approach; Active Learning approach and Structured Teaching approach.

The Milestone School places a high emphasis on functional skills and, where appropriate, preparing pupils for the world of work. We therefore consider literacy, numeracy and PSHE/life skills as key areas for learning.

Rationale

The curriculum at the Milestone School takes account of the differing abilities and experiences of our pupils and will provide an education appropriate to individual needs. It will give pupils the opportunity to develop and learn within a supportive atmosphere and foster positive attitudes to learning that lead to success and achievement, in accordance with our mission statement, ‘Removing obstacles and enabling access to learning’.

The curriculum at the Milestone School will promote the spiritual, intellectual, personal, social and physical development of all our pupils. It consists of the National Curriculum, Personal, Social, Health and Moral Education and Religious Education as well as cross curricular themes and key skills. PSHE and Citizenship is seen as a core subject for our pupils. Extra-curricular activities also form an important part of the curriculum. The Milestone School provides all pupils with the opportunity to be challenged and achieve their potential within a supportive atmosphere and through personalised learning. Development of positive attitudes to learning will lead to success and achievement. Education is promoted as a life-long process whereby developing the key skills for all our pupils will enable them to continue to access learning opportunities.

Purpose

The Milestone Curriculum will:

- offer a broad and balanced curriculum, including an adapted National Curriculum at a level appropriate to pupil attainment
- provide stimulating activities and tasks
- set challenging, achievable targets for individual pupils
- develop effective communication skills
- develop IT skills in order to engage pupils in the advancing world of technology e.g. iPad use
- actively promote fundamental British values, whilst encouraging the tolerance of opinions and beliefs and reflect the multicultural nature of society
- develop self confidence, and promote independent living and work-related skills
- encourage a caring, respectful attitude towards each other within the community

- ensure continuity and progression
- help pupils develop lively enquiring minds
- enable access for all pupils
- promote learning outside the classroom
- use extra-curricular activities to enhance the education offered to pupils
- actively engage and work with parents, carers and multi-agency professionals in order to ensure an holistic approach to learning
- engage professionals within the community, including sports coaches, artists, musicians etc.

Procedures

Class teachers are responsible for:

- planning
- differentiation linked to attainment levels to meet individual needs of pupils
- using a range of teaching and learning strategies, techniques and resources
- attending training as appropriate
- assessment for learning

Curriculum Leads are responsible for:

- developing the Hub curriculum with their Head of Department
- writing and implementing subject policies
- identifying the content coverage in their Hub
- writing the Scheme of Work reflecting the different needs of individual pupils and groups
- monitoring development
- assisting in the planning of the curriculum
- ensuring the development of resources
- modelling good practice and a range of teaching and learning styles
- keeping up to date with developments and initiatives
- highlighting training opportunities, in liaison with the Deputy Head.

Heads of department are responsible for:

- overseeing the continuous development of their Hub curriculum
- auditing Hub planning
- ensuring the curriculum in their department is broad and balanced, relevant to individual pupil need

Monitoring and Evaluation of the curriculum will be carried out by Heads of department, the Curriculum Manager/Assessment Manager and by Curriculum Leads through:

- focussed meetings with relevant staff
- audit of planning
- auditing school resources
- lesson observations
- work scrutiny
- learning walks
- work sampling and moderation
- talking to pupils and staff

- planning development
- audit of subject resources
- analysis of 'P' Scale data, National Curriculum, new National Curriculum end of year statement data and accreditation data.

Resources

The Curriculum areas will be maintained through an allocated budget managed by the Curriculum Manager. Resources will be allocated to curriculum areas in line with the priorities indicated in the School Development Plan.

Equal Opportunities

The school supports the rights of all pupils and staff to equal access and opportunities regardless of age, culture, religion, gender, social lifestyles, ability, disability or sexuality. All pupils have an entitlement of access to the National Curriculum.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety issues are described fully in the school's Health and Safety Policy. All subject leaders have a responsibility to ensure that Curriculum policies and procedures pay due attention to Health and Safety issues.

Professional Development

Training and ONSET are overseen by the deputy Head. All staff are provided with equal opportunity of access to professional development and training in relevant curriculum areas and within budget resources. Training needs will be linked to Performance Management, Induction procedures and the School Development Plan.

For specific information about each Hub's curriculum, please follow the appropriate link below:

Rainbow Hub

http://themilestoneschool.co.uk/files/1314/7919/9171/Rainbow_Hub.pdf

Woodland Hub

http://themilestoneschool.co.uk/files/8114/7919/9216/Woodland_Hub.pdf

Venture Hub

http://themilestoneschool.co.uk/files/8714/7919/9193/Venture_Hub.pdf

Enterprise and Haven Hub

http://themilestoneschool.co.uk/files/7114/7919/9148/Enterprise_and_Haven_Hubs.pdf

Reviewed: January 2017

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The Milestone School Curriculum Development

