

Middle Department Curriculum

“Learning Together”

Our mission statement is “Learning Together” as we believe that our pupils and adults learn best when sharing fully with each other. We believe that together we will achieve success to “Remove Obstacles and Enable Access to Learning”.

Pupils in the Middle Department follow a ‘Informal’, ‘Semi-formal’ or ‘Formal’ approach to curriculum delivery (Please see above). Each of these curriculum focuses on learning through experience as well as maintaining more traditional school based learning.

At the heart of our curriculum are ‘Communication, Language and Interaction’, ‘Cognition and Learning’, ‘Self-Help and Independence’, ‘Sensory and/or Physical Needs’, ‘Social, Emotional and Mental Health’ and ‘Myself’.

Classes in the Middle Department are primarily based in one room with highly skilled class teachers and learning support workers. Some pupils in the Middle Department may be taught a few lessons by teachers other than their class teacher in a variety of different rooms and settings, these may include English, Maths, Physical Development, Relationship and Sex Education or Food Technology lessons. Lessons last for approximately one hour, broken up into a number of short activities to maintain pupils’ interests and meet their learning needs.

Objectives and outcomes are taken from a variety of schemes of work that best suit the needs of each pupil. In addition to this, a range of other activities may be offered to support pupils, for example Mobility, A Sensory Curriculum, the Social Use of Language Programme and Hydrotherapy.

We aim to provide our pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum by using a ‘Topic’ approach to science, humanities and the arts. This allows us to introduce new experiences and concepts at a level our pupils can readily access.

Our pupils ‘Personal, Social, Health and Emotional’ (PSHE) needs are a key focus for us and we see these as one of the most important aspects of our pupil’s learning and development. We aim to address our pupil’s PSHE needs through teaching the ‘PINK Curriculum’, through daily support and throughout all of our teaching and learning experiences.

Computing, technology and Internet Safety is embedded in the Middle Department Curriculum and we follow the ‘Whole School Computing Pathway’ (Please see below).

The ‘Education, Health and Care Plan’ for each pupil informs their individual curriculum and we put in place support, activities and experiences to allow them to achieve success and make progress.

Reading, functional literacy, communication skills and functional maths are all taught in the Middle Department and we follow ‘The Milestone School Whole School Phonics/Reading Readiness Pathway’ and ‘Whole School Maths Pathway’ (Please see below).

Pupils are provided with opportunities to develop all of their skills in the community and transfer their knowledge to support life beyond school.

Middle Department Curriculum Focus

- Each term has a main subject focus to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum.
- A topic focus is chosen for each term by teachers during the academic year. This is to ensure our topics are up to date, focus on the pupil's interests and engage them as much as possible with their learning.
- An area of the 'PINK Curriculum' is identified as a PSHE focus for each term.

Year 1	Year 1 Focus	Year 2	Year 2 Focus	Year 3	Year 3 Focus
Autumn	<p style="text-align: center;">Science Health and Wellbeing</p>	Autumn	<p style="text-align: center;">RE Health and wellbeing</p>	Autumn	<p style="text-align: center;">History Health and wellbeing</p>
Spring	<p style="text-align: center;">History Relationships</p>	Spring	<p style="text-align: center;">Science Relationships</p>	Spring	<p style="text-align: center;">Computing, Music and Drama Relationships</p>
Summer	<p style="text-align: center;">Geography Living in the wider world</p>	Summer	<p style="text-align: center;">Geography Living in the wider world</p>	Summer	<p style="text-align: center;">Science Living in the wider world</p>