

Curriculum Rationale

At Robert Miles Infant School we are in a privileged position to be involved right at the beginning of children's learning journey and we influence and shape their attitudes to learning from the very start. We are passionate about promoting and instilling a curiosity and love for learning through an inspiring and challenging curriculum; preparing children to become lifelong learners with improved life choices.

Our motto of '**Work hard, be kind**' is felt in everything we do.

Our curriculum will...

- 1. Prioritise developing children's positive attitudes to learning,** focusing on: willingness to learn; resilience; self-motivation; determination; reflection. We aim to develop 'assessment capable learners' (children who know: Where am I going? How am I doing? Where to next?).
- 2. Place reading at the heart of everything we do** by developing fluent, confident readers and instilling a love of reading through carefully selected texts that offer breadth through genre and depth through focused teaching.
- 3. Develop progressive knowledge and skills** through a broad and balanced curriculum with rich learning opportunities that equip children with the core knowledge and skills to succeed in their learning journey.

We will achieve this by ensuring that children are:

Fluent in Early Reading and Maths and are exposed to a rich vocabulary.

As an infant school our core purpose will be to ensure that our children are fluent in early Reading and Maths; the gateway to future learning. We will offer explicit and systematic teaching of phonics to ensure that children can decode speedily and accurately. This will be alongside a literature rich environment, using texts across the curriculum as well as explicitly teaching and modelling ambitious vocabulary.

Confident, caring children with positive attitudes to learning.

Children will actively be taught how they can develop resilience, determination, self-motivation and willingness to learn as well as an ability to reflect on their own learning. We will teach the children to value themselves and others through our PSHE curriculum and British values themes.

Offered a balance of knowledge and skills that ensures fast-paced progression across and between each year.

In infant education we believe that a balance of knowledge and skills should be taught so our children have the skills to be successful in an ever-changing world. We will design sequences of lessons that allow children to build on prior knowledge, make links to other subjects and see how new pieces of knowledge fit into the bigger picture. We will ensure that children know what they need to learn and how they can improve, giving opportunities for daily review for efficient recall.

Offered opportunities to develop fluency, problem solving and reasoning to ensure that knowledge is transferred to long term memory.

Children will be taught sequences of lessons that ensure that knowledge is gained in small steps, with opportunities for review and independent practise and cognitive overload avoided.

Creative and flexible, responding to the children's interests and needs including first-hand, meaningful experiences that engage them in their own learning.

Our curriculum will not be static, but will respond to the needs of each cohort to ensure that the education the children receive allows them to be challenged and make the best possible progress.

This rationale applies to all pupils at our school, regardless of their background, needs or abilities.

Teachers will respond to the individual needs of all our children and make any necessary adaptations to ensure all children are secure in the next steps of their learning.