

Gladstone Primary School

Curriculum Policy

Introduction

At Gladstone Primary School we strive to enable our pupils achieve the highest academic and personal standards they are capable of by providing them with a wide range of the highest quality learning and teaching experiences during their time at Gladstone. We offer a curriculum which is broad and balanced, and teaching and learning experiences that are engaging, inspiring and empowering and differentiated to meet the needs of all our pupils whatever their needs and ability.

As a Values School this also includes the 'hidden curriculum', or what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave. Our aim is for our pupils to develop into positive, responsible and resilient people, who can work and cooperate effectively with others as well as developing knowledge and skills in order to achieve their optimum potential.

Our whole curriculum is underpinned by the values that we hold dear.

In Gladstone Primary we:

- Value each child's uniqueness and promote respect for diverse cultures
- Value the ideas and views of each child. We acknowledge and support Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that children should be encouraged to form and to express their opinions
- Value the importance of each person in our community and organise our curriculum to promote inclusion, cooperation and understanding among all members of our community
- Value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty
- Value our environment. We teach our pupils how we should take care of the world, not only for ourselves, but also for future generations.

Aims

At Gladstone, all of our children will learn to lead fulfilling lives and be valued citizens of society, Wales and the wider world.

We will:

- Deliver the Curriculum for Wales through an innovative 'Curriculum for Gladstone' to ensure we develop ambitious and capable children ready to learn throughout their lives
- Deliver rich tasks that ensure all children apply knowledge, skills and creativity so they are ready to play a full role in society
- Immerse children in a variety of opportunities to produce healthy, confident individuals who are aware of aspects of physical and mental health to enable them to lead fulfilling lives
- Instil positive, respectful values and develop children who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the World.

We will achieve these aims by establishing an environment where all stakeholders work together in the best interest of all Gladstone children.

Equality

All the staff at Gladstone Primary are concerned with promoting a safe, secure and caring environment to provide all our pupils equal opportunities to experience success. The curriculum secures for all pupils, an entitlement to all areas of learning and the development of knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes and does not discriminate against social background, culture, race, religion or belief, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age and differences in ability and disabilities.

Each child is valued and seen as unique. We ensure the curriculum caters for the learning needs of each individual pupil challenging them to achieve to the full extent of their capabilities. Pupils are provided with opportunities to demonstrate what they know, understand and can do. Pupil wellbeing is central to practice and provision.

Statement of Intent

At Gladstone Primary School, our curriculum is designed to:

- Nurture sincere and respectful relationships with children, their families and the wider community;
- Promote health & wellbeing in all areas of learning;
- Encourage children's voice and choice in their own learning, empowering all children to be the best they can be;
- Inspire, engage and stimulate through rich, authentic learning experiences;
- Encourage independence and interdependence, developing cooperation and collaboration;
- Build children's resilience in their learning, by creating a Growth Mindset;
- Be inclusive to all children.

Our curriculum supports children in being and becoming:

- Healthy, Confident Individuals;
- Ethical, Informed Citizens;
- Ambitious, Capable Learners;
- Enterprising, Creative Contributors

At Gladstone Primary School, we lay the foundations for lifelong learning!

Organisation

Our curriculum is everything a learner experiences in pursuit of the four purposes. It is not simply what we teach, but how we teach, why we teach it and the impact of the learning. The curriculum organises learning around the six Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE)

- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Mathematics and Numeracy
- Science and Technology
- Health and Wellbeing
- Humanities
- Expressive Arts

with literacy, numeracy and digital competence as the Cross Curricular Framework.

All teachers ensure that learners are ambitiously planned for, within a progression step relevant to their need. Each AoLE has a number of What Matters statements, which ensure breadth and coverage of the fundamental key concepts.

As a guide to planning, the school has mapped out expectations for each year group. However learners may be above or below the descriptions of learning within that particular progression step. A child's progression step is not a 'best fit' model but a way to genuinely plan for an individual's progression in different areas of learning.

Nursery and Reception	Progression step 1
Years 1 , 2 and 3	Progression step 2
Years 4 , 5 and 6	Progression step 3

At Gladstone our curriculum places emphasis on experiential learning. Children have opportunities to learn and develop skills through meaningful first hand experiences. There is a balance of focused activities with enhanced and continuous provision appropriate to their stage of development. The outdoor learning environment is an integral part of provision and provides an additional resource to extend opportunities for learning and skills development.

We implement 'thematic approaches' to learning across the primary phase with children leading their own learning in a highly creative way. Learners get a deep understanding of how to thrive in an increasingly digital world. We follow a digital competence framework developing digital skills across the curriculum, whilst preparing our children for the opportunities and risks that an online world presents.

We continue to teach some areas discretely such as phonics through Read, Write, Inc, Number through CLIC, Reading, basic skills development, Welsh and PE. Relationships and Sexuality Education is now statutory and is taught through Jigsaw PSHE.

Review

This policy must be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy
- Additional learning Needs Policy
- More Able and Talented Policy
- Marking Policy
- EAL Policy

- Assessment for Learning Policy
- Languages, Literacy and Communication Policy
- Mathematics and Numeracy Policy
- ICT Policy
- Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Policy

The policy will be reviewed annually or earlier if appropriate.

Date of next review: Summer 2024