



# Smallthorne Primary Academy Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact.



## Intent

At Smallthorne, our Curriculum has been designed to ensure that children “Smile, Strive and Shine, with pupils’ learning at the centre. Our curriculum is broad, balanced and offers pupils opportunities to grow as individuals as well as learners. It has been carefully designed to ensure coverage and progression. Through a combination of learning techniques and milestones, we aim to ensure pupils develop as independent, confident and successful learners, with high aspirations, who know how to make a positive contribution to their community and the wider society. The Academy places great emphasis on nurturing kind, respectful and honest citizens.

The ability to learn is underpinned in curriculum subject areas by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and vocabulary. We consistently aim to build on the child's previous learning experiences and engage them in a level of work that is appropriate to their needs. Pupils at all levels are helped to achieve their potential. We provide a highly inclusive environment where those who are more able are challenged and encouraged to expand their skills and knowledge through varied curriculum opportunities that can be applied in all aspects of life. Those who find learning more difficult are encouraged and given targeted support are able to develop at their own pace and to learn in a style that best suits their individual needs.

We aim to ensure pupils enjoy their education, providing an environment that encourages lifelong learning. Our curriculum is designed to build resilience, improve confidence and self-esteem to challenge their thinking, concepts and themselves. Adults throughout the school act as good role models, demonstrating how to learn. This inspires children to become good leaders and experts in all aspects of learning. We strive to develop a culture where children can work independently and collaboratively; where they learn to see getting something wrong as part of learning how to get it right and celebrating successes.

## Implementation

The Smallthorne curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum 2014 and other experiences and opportunities which best meet the learning and developmental needs of the children in our school. Some of our content is taught as a discrete subject, so that our children gain a broad understanding of each subject and know exactly what they are studying. Other content is combined in a cross-curricular approach, enabling us to put knowledge into context.

Curriculum maps are produced for each year group, ensuring clarity of coverage with a strong emphasis on breadth of vocabulary and progression of knowledge and skills. Using prior knowledge as a starting point, we plan lessons where all pupils can make progress. We base these upon the teacher’s detailed knowledge of each child, striving to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to each child’s level of ability. We use a variety of resources and our lessons follow a cycle of planning, to ensure that we can evidence progress over short and long periods of time. In order to allow children to remember key skills, children revisit them over the course of a key stage. Specialist teachers support the teaching of Music and PE. At the end of each term, children complete their journals, where they demonstrate the knowledge and skills that have been acquired.

Our curriculum is designed to set high expectations, combine transferable skills and develop strong cross curricular links. The curriculum is reinforced by the school’s core values which are woven throughout the curriculum, including assemblies. There are a variety of visits and visitors planned to enrich the learning and create lasting memories through real experiences. Children are supported to achieve their potential and progress with confidence to the next phase of their education.



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## Impact

The impact and measure of the curriculum is to ensure that children progress from their starting points and acquire the appropriate age related skills and knowledge linked to the curriculum, through the teaching of a stimulating, broad and balanced curriculum.

We measure curriculum success regularly through scrutiny of work, formal and informal lesson observations, pupil voice and class teacher data meetings, where progress is monitored and challenged where necessary. The impact of the school's curriculum can be seen in the books they produce and the outcomes for all groups of pupils within the school. We track attainment through our school data tracking system and end of year assessments in KS1 and KS2, EYFS; Phonics in year 1 and multiplications tables' tests in year 4. We report progress and attainment termly through parent teacher consultation and an end of year written report.

All subjects are taught in a range of ability and mixed ability groups across the school. In all year groups there are small group interventions in order to support pupils in gaining the key skills to become successful readers, writers and mathematicians. The more able are challenged further in their learning and children who find aspects of their learning more difficult are appropriately supported, so that they too are enabled to experience success.

At Smallthorne, we strive for all pupils to achieve their maximum potential, by having high expectations and excellent standards. Our children enjoy lessons and we believe this early love of learning stimulates children to become life-long learners. As a result of taking risks, pupils are able to demonstrate emotional resilience and have the ability to persevere when they meet challenges. By the end of KS2, our children have high aspirations, self-belief and are ready for the next stage of their education. Their eyes have been opened to a world of possibilities and their enthusiasm for learning ignited. They are ready to Smile, Strive and Shine.