



The National Curriculum

A 'curriculum' is a list of content to be taught and learnt – a course of study for schools, colleges and universities. From September 2014, schools in England follow a new [National Curriculum](#) - a course of study decided by the Department for Education. Private schools, academies and free schools are exempt: they do not need to follow the requirements.

Below is a brief introduction to the National Curriculum. [Download the entire National Curriculum](#) for more detail.

The National Curriculum: structure

At Blackmore Primary School, there are three phases in total:

- Early Years: ages 4-5 (Reception); the National Curriculum does not cover this phase
- Key Stage 1: ages 5-7 (Years 1-2)
- Key Stage 2: ages 7-11 (Years 3-6)

For Key Stages 1 and 2, there are three **core** subjects:

- English (spoken language, reading, writing, including grammar and punctuation)
- Mathematics (including number and place value, calculations, fractions, measurements, geometry)
- Science (including 'working scientifically')

In addition, there are **foundation** subjects; for Key Stages 1 and 2, these are:

- Art and Design
- Computing
- Design and Technology (DT)
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Physical Education (PE)
- Religious Education (RE)
- Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)
- Spanish (for KS2)

We are required to cover The National Curriculum and this was reviewed in September 2014. At Blackmore Primary School we deliver the content through topic based cross-curricular links with specific focus on skills, knowledge and understanding. Our Topics based curriculum doesn't just link to the National Curriculum, but can stem from pupils' own questions, interests or enthusiasms, and/or stem from local, national or international events.

The Key Stage One topics are based on a two year rolling programme and the Key Stage Two topics are set in each year level based on the subject topic in the National Curriculum but each topic will have a History, Geography or Science focus. The topic lengths may vary across the classes depending on the children's interests and the class teachers' coverage.

Our Curriculum Aims

- Provide an engaging, safe, secure and happy environment for all children regardless of their race, gender or disability.
- For children to receive a balanced cross-curricular education that nurtures and embraces all children's interests and potential.
- Inspire children to become life-long learners and responsible citizens who give of their best and are equipped with the skills to prepare them for their futures in a rapidly changing world.
- Have high expectations of behaviour, attitude, manners, standard of presentation and attendance.
- Promote healthy lifestyles.
- Develop understanding of and respect for a wide range of religious values, languages and cultural traditions and different ways of life.
- Ensure that all those who are part of the school community demonstrate the Core Values towards one another and that they enjoy learning and working together.
- Celebrate achievement!



Be the best you can be

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