 **School Curriculum**

1. **INTENT**

**How does our curriculum fit in with our Vision, Values and Mission Statement?**

As with our curriculum, we spent time shaping our Vision and Values. Governors and staff sought to articulate the vision for our school and the values that underpin it.

Our Nursery School Vision makes clear our aspirations for; ‘Freedom to Explore Opportunities to Express’.

This is underpinned by our Values:

**Respect -** for ourselves, for one another, in our school and in the wider community

**Honesty and Consideration**

**Equality –** across race, culture, gender, religion, language and special educational needs or disability

**Lifelong Learning and Development**

**Co-operation – one team -** collaborating seamlessly with parents, other professionals, schools and other nurseries or childcare establishments

**Resilience, Quality and Standards –** we have the highest expectations of ourselves and our partners as well as the children

**Responsive and reflective** – we seek the views of children and families to ensure that the services we offer meet the needs of children and families

**Wellbeing –** we prioritise the health, safety and well-being of children families and staff

Our **Mission Statement** sets out clearly how we will achieve our vision:

Children become confident, self-motivated learners, with the necessary skills and attitudes to achieve the best possible outcomes in their learning and development. We achieve this through the delivery of high quality education and the development of effective partnerships.

Our aspiration is that:

* Each child is valued as an individual with tremendous potential for learning
* Each child is listened to and their needs and interests identified
* Children feel happy and secure in our positive, nurturing environment
* Each child develops confidence and resilience in their Learning Journey supporting them to become successful lifelong learners
* Our school plays a key role at the heart of the community.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Our Curriculum is drawn from:

* The ‘Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage’ published by the Department for Education, which we use as a starting point,
* The non-statutory ‘Development Matters’ published by the British Association for Early Education, which we use to support assessment, tracking and planning for children’s next steps.

As set out in the section above focused on Curriculum Intent, what lies at the heart of our provision is;

1. a rigorous and systematic approach to teaching each of the 7 statutory areas of learning and development:

* Personal, Social and Emotional Development,
* Communication and Language,
* Physical Development,
* Literacy,
* Mathematics,
* Understanding the World and
* Expressive art and Design

with a strong focus on the promotion of language and progress in Literacy and Maths

1. children being exposed to high quality experiences, through a mix of adult focused and child initiated activities.
2. the priority given to the development of Characteristics of Effective Learning.
3. Understanding of and a commitment to developing ‘Cultural Capital’ -‘***the essential knowledge that children need to be educated citizens’*** *(OFSTED Inspection Handbook 2019)*.

**How does our curriculum meet the needs of our pupils?**

1. Our curriculum has been carefully designed, planned and organised to ensure breadth, balance and depth for each child at Rainhill Community Nursery School. We recognise our children’s backgrounds, life and cultural experiences and have used this information to help us to design a curriculum that meets their needs and prepares them effectively for the next stage in their education.
2. Literacy and maths is taught in differentiated groups in order to provide challenge for the more able and acceleration of learning for those at risk of delay. Predictable interests and topics relating to Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design are planned over a two year cycle to avoid duplication or repetition. Continuous provision is planned to compliment the planning cycle whilst providing opportunities for further enquiry and learning and consolidation and recall of skills, knowledge and attitudes to learning.
3. Acknowledging the context of the school we recognise the importance of providing opportunities for our pupils to experience the benefits of a multicultural society, tolerance and understanding (multi-cultural images and focus on community events such as Chinese New Year). We want to be able to respond to national and world events, enabling the children to see different perspectives and develop their own opinions within an ever changing world (Recycling and Feelings Topics).
4. At Rainhill Community Nursery School it is our underlying belief that every child should feel valued, develop resilience and confidence as a learner and experience the feeling of success in a wide range of curriculum areas. We have designed, organised and planned our curriculum to ensure every child receives an appropriate mix of academic and personal development, which means in practice our curriculum places equal importance on the 7 Statutory areas of learning and the promotion of Characteristics of Effective Learning.

1. We place priority on ensuring children’s physical and mental well-being are met. We understand that children will not be successful learners unless they are emotionally secure, therefore we created the capacity within our curriculum to be flexible and respond to emerging issues. We want children to understand that support for themselves and for each other are the key to success; that we are a team and therefore look after each other – whether that be within our nursery school community or in a wider context. We want children to develop respect for each other and through our restorative culture we support children to begin to take responsibility for their actions and understand that actions have consequences.

**IMPACT**

**How do children progress and achieve within our curriculum?**

At Rainhill Community Nursery School, our definition of progress is; the widening and deepening of essential knowledge, skills, understanding and learning behaviours. We designed, organised and planned our curriculum to ensure that children are not merely covering content but achieving a depth to their learning which enables them to use their skills and understanding in all areas of the curriculum. Our careful curriculum design and planning, means that we build in many opportunities for repetition and practice of; essential skills, knowledge and understanding in every subject. This ensures that children can revisit previous learning, which allows them to gradually develop a deeper understanding of the skills and processes within subjects, at their own pace and in the best possible way for each individual child.

**How will we evaluate our curriculum?**

We pride ourselves in constantly improving our school and value feedback from all stakeholders. We give our parents and governors many opportunities to share and celebrate the outcomes of our curriculum. Learning Stories which showcase learning are displayed and differentiated homework challenges provide parents with information about how to support their children’s learning. Experiences, including educational visits/visitors are planned in order to inspire and motivate children in their learning. In all of this we will ask for feedback from all stakeholders and senior leaders will monitor and evaluate the impact that our curriculum is having on learning.

**What has been the impact of our curriculum?**

Outcomes for children evidence that the very large majority of children that have attended our school leave with development in line with or above the age related expectation. The very large majority are therefore on track to achieve a good level of development at the end of the Foundation Stage. All children have made at least expected progress in their learning with a significant proportion making accelerated progress. This evidences the success of the school in closing the ‘attainment gap’. As a result, we have high expectations that children that have previously attended Rainhill Community Nursery School will go on to achieve well at the end of each subsequent key stage.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our curriculum, please don’t hesitate to contact Miss Emma Nicholson at school or if your question is about your child’s curriculum then please contact a member of the teaching team.