

## Elmridge Curriculum Objectives

- Enable pupils to build essential knowledge and skills within each subject and provide opportunities for them to use and apply what they have learnt across other subjects
- Develop pupils' confidence, leadership, resilience and enjoyment of learning through inspiring learning experiences
- Support and encourage pupils to establish good routines to help them maintain good physical and mental health now and into the future.
- Develop pupils' awareness of current national and global issues and understand their locality in the context of the wider world
- Develop pupils' moral values and spiritual awareness
- Develop pupils' understand of the relevance of their learning, how their learning could be built upon in the next stages of their education and awareness of careers where their knowledge and skills could be applied

## Timetabled lessons

In putting the curriculum into practice we aim to ensure that –

- Every child can access the highest quality education and reach their full potential
- Children's skills and knowledge progress smoothly from teacher to teacher from Early Years Foundation Stage to KS1, from KS1 to KS2 and from primary school to secondary school so that the work at one stage follows on naturally from the work of the stage before.
- Excellence is pursued through rigorous coverage of learning objectives delivered via challenging and stimulating lessons.
- Every child's learning programme is varied, balanced and each part of it relates to the others.
- Children are taught in small groups, as part of a whole class or individually, to match their particular needs. Children who learn more slowly or have exceptional ability are catered for as an integral part of the work of the school.
- Gender stereotyping is avoided
- As far as possible learning is rooted in the pupil's personal experience and relates to practical everyday needs and future aspirations.
- Lessons are designed to prepare children for life in a society which recognises the different cultural backgrounds of its citizens.
- We teach a broad and balanced curriculum based on the 2014 National Curriculum but tailored to the specific needs of Elmridge pupils.
- Opportunities for the key assessments of the children's progress will be incorporated into teachers' planning; time is also provided for pupils to reflect and evaluate their progress towards key targets and read and act upon their teachers' written feedback.
- Homework is set to support pupils' learning in core subjects from Reception to 6.

## Philosophy for Children

**Philosophy for Children** is an approach to teaching and learning, in which children take part in philosophical enquiry. It enhances thinking and communication skills, boosts confidence and self-esteem, and improves behaviour and well-being. After a successful trial in the summer term of 2021-22, Elmridge teachers are all currently undertaking SAPERE training to enable them to deliver philosophy. Pupils from

Reception to Year 6 will enjoy a weekly timetabled philosophy session from the beginning of the spring term 2022. In addition, across all subjects, pupils will be encouraged to apply the skills learned in discreet P4C sessions in order to optimise their learning experiences.

### **Collective worship**

At Elmridge, themes covered in Collective Worship represent many of the key curriculum aims of the school. Collective worships are carefully planned to link into curriculum areas and communicate whole school priorities. Guest speakers often visit the school including representatives from different faiths, emergency services, fund raisers for charities and experts in particular fields.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

The school offers a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to enhance pupils' learning experiences. Over three quarters of the pupils attend a club during the year with over half the pupils attending a club every half term. The following clubs are regularly offered to pupils during the school year: cross country, football, netball, lacrosse, tennis, athletics, chess, dance multi-skills, Spanish, advanced mathematics, advanced reading, choir and film club. They will be age-range regulated (due to numbers) and may vary throughout the school year. Many of these activities are offered by Elmridge staff but a number of others are offered by community linked outside agencies. Several clubs run by outside agencies are funded by the additional sport funding grant.

### **Cross curricular links**

Subjects are taught discreetly in Key Stage One and Two in order to get the pupils ready for secondary education and give them a deeper and more rigorous learning experience. Nevertheless, natural links between core and foundation subjects are encouraged and developed.

Safeguarding, entrepreneurial, spiritual, moral, social, cultural and personal areas of learning are also incorporated into lessons wherever possible.

### **Transition to secondary school**

Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have the opportunity to visit local secondary schools and are encouraged to attend open days. Where possible, we aim for our year 6 pupils to experience a lesson at a local secondary school. Children also participate in discussions about transition through circle times. We also have links with local universities and Year 5 complete a project learning about control technology. Elmridge aims to make links between subjects and careers where appropriate, for example we have close links with Manchester Airport. There is an annual careers fair for Year 6 pupils in the summer term.

The majority of Elmridge pupils sit entrance exams to local grammar schools. In order to support them in the preparation for these assessments, the curriculum is adapted in Year 5 to incorporate some weekly work on verbal reasoning. An extra-curricular club in advanced mathematics and non-verbal reasoning is also offered to

the Year 5 pupils in the spring and summer terms. At the beginning of Year 6, pupils are offered mock entrance exams in the formal setting of the school hall.

### **Trips and residentials**

In every year group pupils enjoy a number of trips relating to curricular themes and timetabled subjects. Museums, concert halls, theatres, zoos, country parks, seaside towns and historic buildings are all regularly visited by classes. Classes also undertake local walks around Hale Barns or to the River Bollin.

Year 4 undertake a three day residential each year in Lancashire in the spring whilst Year 6 spends four days in the Lake District on an outward bounds course every summer.

### **Sports enhancement**

On Wednesday afternoon the school's regular sports coach works with groups of pupils offering additional opportunities outside the usual curriculum delivery.

Inclusion sessions offer pupils who do not get regularly get involved in after school sport the opportunity to do extra sport in a more relaxed, supportive environment. Leadership development sessions are also delivered culminating in older pupils getting the opportunity to act as sports leaders for younger pupils. Gifted pupils are also supported in both sports sport specific and non-sport specific sessions.

### **Sports festivals and competitions**

Each academic year each Elmridge class attends a sports festival where they compete against pupils of the same age from other schools in a supportive environment. Every child from Years 1-6 participate in the festivals which are organised by Trafford School Sports Partnership.

In addition Key Stage Two pupils get the opportunity to compete at inter-school level in cross country, football, netball and athletics. The school is regularly entered into leagues and tournaments.

### **Instrumental Tuition**

As part of their music curriculum, all pupils in Key Stage Two learn either the ukulele or the glockenspiel. This instrumental tuition is developed across a number of years in order to provide the opportunity for pupils to develop a deeper understanding of an instrument and greater proficiency in terms of playing skills, music reading and performance. Each year group has the opportunity to perform pieces and songs in front of the whole school and/or parents/carers.

### **Charity fundraising**

The high profile of charity fund-raising at Elmridge closely reflects the school's vision and values. Every term, pupils get the opportunity to raise money for charity through a range of different fun activities or challenges. A wide range of charities benefit from the school community's fund-raising. Sometimes the fund-raising is responsive to a world event or disaster, whilst charities in the local community benefit at other times

of year. The School Council play a key role in organising charitable events and selecting charities to support.

### **Curriculum days/weeks**

Every year, curriculum knowledge is developed and subject profiles raised through themed days/weeks/months. Some examples in recent years have been World Book Day, International Languages Day, British Science Week and Black History Month. In these instances, teachers may adapt their curriculum and/or timetable to optimise learning experiences for the pupils.