

The Curriculum

Watling Lower School aims to provide a broad, balanced relevant and differentiated curriculum to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of children at the school. Through the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, the range of extra-curricular activities that we organise and how we treat our children and our behaviour expectations of them, we aim to teach children how to grow into positive, responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others while developing knowledge and skills, so that they achieve their true potential.

We are currently developing a new Creative, Key Skills based curriculum and will update parents as it is introduced from next year. We also wait to hear from the Government about changes to the National Curriculum.

Foundation Stage

The 4+ curriculum is based on the DfE (Department for Education) Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage. It is made up of six areas of learning:

- Communication, language and literacy
- Mathematical development
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Physical development
- Creative development
- Personal, social and emotional development

In line with the DfE guidance, all teaching and learning in the 4+ is through play-based activities. A variety of methods are employed to deliver the curriculum. Some activities are teacher-led working in small groups, others are based on independent exploration or working with a whole class.

Children in the Foundation Stage will experience elements of the Literacy and Numeracy strategies for reception children. This will increase to a full Literacy and Numeracy hour during their final term in the Foundation Stage.

The aim of the 4+ provision is to create a caring, stimulating environment in which children can learn, whilst feeling happy and secure in their surroundings.

“The children skip happily into school each morning. Under the watchful eyes of their teachers, they quickly settle down and are enthusiastic learners. They benefit from the warm and caring ethos of the classroom, in which they are all regarded as special and important.” Ofsted, March 2009, on the effectiveness of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Key Stages One and Two

In Key Stages 1 and 2 the main subject areas are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- ICT (computers)

Children will also study:

- Geography
- History
- Art and Design
- Music
- Design and Technology (craftwork)
- Physical Education (games, gymnastics and dance)
- Religious Education
- Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship

Children in Key Stage 2 will also study French

Curriculum Development

Regular meetings of the teaching staff are held to ensure continuity of curriculum content and method. The curriculum is regularly reviewed to assess its effectiveness and development takes place when necessary. Our staff frequently attend in-service training courses to keep abreast of developments in their particular fields.



"Pupils find the curriculum interesting and stimulating and this enhances their eagerness to learn." Ofsted, March 2009