



The Oaktree School

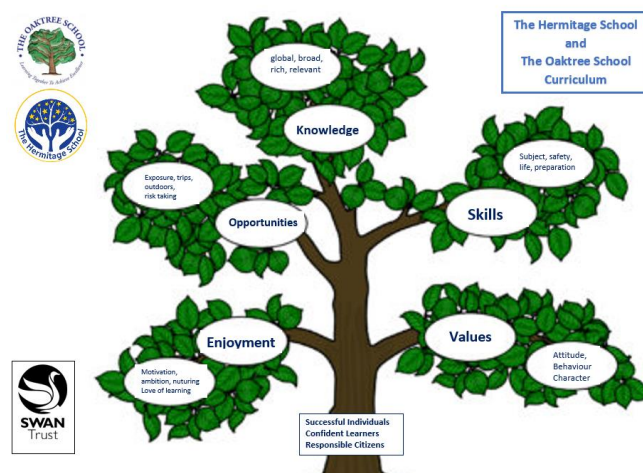
Curriculum Policy

Autumn 2021

School name: The Oaktree School
Policy owner: Headteacher
Date: Autumn 2021
Next review date: Autumn 2022
Date shared with LGC: Spring 2021
Date shared with staff: Autumn 2021

Intent

At The Oaktree School our children are taught the **values, skills and knowledge** that they need to meet the challenges of modern day living, ensuring that they know how to keep themselves physically and mentally healthy. By teaching our children to care for themselves and the environment, we will prepare them for their role as **successful individuals, confident learners and responsible citizens**. They will experience a range of **opportunities** in our exciting inside and outside learning environments by engaging as much as possible in the natural world. Our curriculum incorporates a text rich reading and writing curriculum guided by the Power of Reading, which makes links with the progressive knowledge rich, skills based Cornerstones curriculum for foundation subjects. This ensures that children make **enjoyable**, meaningful and purposeful connections following the 'Engage, Develop, Innovate, Express' cornerstones.



Our curriculum will give children the opportunity to:

- build resilience through the challenge and enjoyment of learning within a happy and safe environment
- promote a positive attitude towards learning as they develop and demonstrate their creativity and curiosity
- develop a rich and deep subject knowledge, which allows them to develop new skills and build on their knowledge in a purposeful and meaningful manner
- understand the purpose and value of their learning and see its relevance to their past, present and future
- develop as independent and responsible learners who know how best they learn and how best to improve
- contribute positively within a culturally diverse society
- encourage and develop a respect for their environment

Mission Statement

The Oaktree School provides all children in the community with a quality education, supporting families to prepare their child for success in our ever-changing world. Our nurturing safe environment and stimulating curriculum harnesses each child's unique skills through a range of opportunities whilst embedding a love to learn.

Implementation

We follow the National Curriculum programmes of study for Science, Art, Design Technology, Geography, History, Music and Computing. In addition we promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development including fundamental British values.

As a vehicle for teaching these subjects we have chosen to use The Cornerstones Curriculum. It is a skills and knowledge-based curriculum with a creative edge. It's rooted in a proven pedagogy based

on how children learn best. At its heart is the principle that every child deserves a rich, fun, engaging and broad learning experience. The curriculum nurtures engagement, curiosity and innovation, brings learning to life in meaningful ways, and really makes an impact.

The Cornerstones Curriculum is based on Imaginative Learning Projects. Each ILP has an overarching theme linked to a national curriculum subject. In addition to the main subject focus, each ILP makes meaningful links across a range of subjects and covers multiple aspects of the national curriculum. Lessons are organised in a weekly series and link national curriculum programmes of study (the knowledge bit) and age-related skills (the skills bit).

The Four Cornerstones of Learning provides the structure for every ILP. We call these Engage, Develop, Innovate, and Express. We believe this pedagogy reflects the best way children learn and is rooted in a variety of different educational approaches and research.



Engage – hook children in with a memorable experience.

Develop – allow children time to gather the skills and knowledge they need to develop a deep understanding.

Innovate – offer creative experiences that allow children to apply their skills, knowledge and understanding.

Express – provide the space and time for reflecting, evaluating, and celebrating learning

Our curriculum is designed to ensure that children develop the knowledge and skills they need to become confident, self-motivated learners.

Impact

Evaluation is essential for the planning and development of the curriculum. The Senior Leadership Team and Subject Leaders monitor lesson plans, moderate pupil work, conduct learning walks in order to support their self-evaluation of their subject, provide training, support to colleagues and to identify next steps for improvement.

Our governing body is responsible for monitoring the school curriculum. Delegated governors for specific subjects liaise with the subject leader to monitor their identified actions and impact of these on the quality of learning, teaching and provision in the subject.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- The Learning and Teaching Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Learning Feedback Policy
- Single Equality Policy
- Subject Policies

“The Oaktree School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment.”