



ALMA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Provision

At Alma we aim to provide a balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all our pupils. Our pupils have the opportunity to experience all the areas of the National Curriculum 2014.

The pupils in our Nursery and Reception classes experience all areas of 'Development Matters'. The pupils in Years 1-6 experience all areas of the National Curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Planning is flexible in order to engage pupils in their learning.

Learning is enriched through first hand and practical experiences. Educational visits and visitors into school are used to broaden the pupils' understanding of what is being taught. Pupils learn in many different ways; in small groups, independently, outdoors, through play, art, music, dance, through a variety of media and sources.

At Alma we promote the teaching of key skills for learning and values, equipping our pupils for the world and the community they will grow up in. Learning opportunities are designed to promote these values and skills and the development of them.

Pupils' learning is assessed regularly, so that support and challenge is given where appropriate.

General Provision and Expectations

- Learning is pupil led, a knowledge harvest is carried out at the start and throughout the topic (KWL- What we **Know**, what we **Want** to know and what we have **Learnt**). Questions derived from the knowledge harvest are referred to throughout the course of a topic and are evident in each classroom.
- Key Learning Skills for each year group are linked and taught within a topic. Key skills are taken from 'Alma Primary School Progression of Key Skills' document. 'The Key skills' for learning are aimed at developing; creativity, include team work, research and independence.
- Whole School Special events take place throughout the year. The following events will take place during the academic year 2016-2017:
Staying safe/Anti Bullying day, The Big Draw, E-Safety week, Science/Maths week, Choral Poetry day, Book/Poetry day, Arts week and Health and Well-Being week.

The Curriculum

Foundation Stage:

The Foundation stage curriculum is centred on the child and informed by 'Development Matters'. Discrete teaching sessions are planned for Literacy and Numeracy.

A 'Weekly Overview' is completed with year group colleagues and adapted in light of the pupil's interest in each class. RWI is used to teach phonics and reading in Nursery and Reception. Maths mastery is used to teach maths in Reception.

KS1 & 2:

Planning for Years 1-6 is taken from 'Alma Primary School Long Term' booklet which is based on the National Curriculum 2014. Year 1 use 'Development Matters' and the National Curriculum to plan from. 'Development Matters' is only used to plan from, for the pupils who are working below National Curriculum Year group expectations.

Mathematics

The teaching of mathematics is based on 'The National Curriculum'. Five teaching sessions take place each week. Alma's Calculation Policy is used to teach methodology. A designated maths meeting session takes place daily separate from the maths session. A range of assessments are carried out throughout the academic year. Years 2 and 6 complete Statutory SATS at the end of the academic year.

English

The teaching of English is based on the 'The National Curriculum'. Grammar, spelling and punctuation are taught discreetly and within the writing sessions. Writing is linked and taught through the 'Literacy and Language' programme, selected 'The Power of Reading' texts or taught through other areas of the curriculum.

An average of two/three pieces of sustained writing are produced each half term. In the Foundation Stage, evidence of writing throughout the half term can be found in each child's 'Learning Journey' books. In KS1 & 2 evidence of writing can be found in English books, Science or Workbooks. Alma's writing criteria sheets are used to formally assess Writing.

Reading & Phonics

At Alma, the 'Read Write Inc.' programme is used to teach phonics and reading and this is followed by the 'Literacy and Language' programme. It is a systematic and dynamic literacy programme rooted in phonics. 'Fresh Start' is a reading intervention which is used with older pupils if necessary. 'Read Write Inc. Comprehension' is used with pupils who have completed the RWI early reading programme. Reading and Phonic sessions take place daily. Class teachers read daily to their class.

Handwriting

Handwriting is taught weekly and practised daily this is based on the 'Letter Join' handwriting scheme. Interactive resources are available to use throughout the school. The teaching of joins is expected to commence by the end of KS1.

Science

The teaching of Science is based on the 'The National Curriculum'. Science is taught weekly for 2 hours and the whole school focus for the Summer term is Science. Practical investigations are taught once per half term.

PSHE/Circle Time

PSHE is a non-statutory subject; this allows teachers at Alma to be flexible with the curriculum and to deliver a programme that reflects the needs of our pupils. Our aim is to equip our pupils with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions. This is achieved through discussions, circle time, E-Safety week, the teaching of Science and Philosophy. At Alma there are six core values that are addressed throughout the academic year through assemblies, circle time, Philosophy and 'Special lunch' discussions.

Philosophy

Philosophy is taught weekly and linked to other subjects where possible. Philosophy was introduced as part of the school's curriculum primarily with the aim to develop speaking and listening and to offer the pupils time to think and talk about things that really matter to them.

Philosophy for Children is a particular kind of thinking skills programme. It makes the most of pupil's inborn curiosity, encouraging them to raise their own questions and develop their reasoning as they think ideas through together. Philosophy also promotes the key skills for learning, which are of great importance here at Alma, as they help our pupils to improve their learning and performance.

Religious Education

Religious education is based on 'The Enfield Agreed Syllabus'. The pupils study Christianity and five other World Faiths: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism. Religious education encourages pupils to develop positive attitudes to learning and to the belief and values of others. Religious education is a subject that must be taught to all registered pupils in maintained schools except to those withdrawn by their parents.

Physical Education

Physical education is taught using Enfield Borough P.E plans which are based on the National Curriculum. All KS1 and KS2 pupils are required to take part in two timetabled PE sessions a week and are also provided with the opportunity to participate in after-school clubs organised by the school. After school clubs take place throughout the academic year and range from rugby, netball, gymnastics, dance, ballet, multi-skills, boxing, football, cycling, dodgeball, badminton and table tennis.

Music

Music is taught using the scheme 'Music Express' which is based on the National Curriculum, through the teaching of a musical instrument. The pupils at Alma are provided with opportunities to perform in assemblies, whole school occasions, end of term productions and fundraising/local/national events.

Languages

French is currently being taught weekly in Years 3, 4 and 5 and is based on the National Curriculum.

History & Geography

History and Geography are taught using the National Curriculum and linked to English, special events, places or significant people where possible.

Art and Design & Design and Technology

Art and Design and Design and Technology are taught using 'Alma's Progression in Art and Design skills and Guidelines' and 'Alma's progression in Design and Technology skills and Guidelines', which are based on The National Curriculum. The teaching of these skills is linked to other areas of the curriculum where possible.

Computing

Computing is taught using 'Alma's Computing Guidelines and Progression of skills' which is based on the National Curriculum. The teaching of computing includes computer science, information technology and digital literacy.

Assemblies

At Alma we hold daily assemblies in a variety of groupings.

Homework

At Alma we recognise that the partnership between home and school is vital in helping the pupils. Homework can further stimulate and enhance learning through extension work and research.

