

CURRICULUM STATEMENT for FERNHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Context of our school

Fernhurst Primary is a friendly one form entry school, which is located in the heart of the South Downs. As an integral part of Fernhurst village it has strong links within the community. There is a Pre-School on site with the majority of the children transitioning into our Reception class. Fernhurst expanded to a one form entry in 2014. There is a strong focus on forest school and working together in the community.

In 2017 the school was rated as “Good” by Ofsted.

We believe the purpose of education in our school is:

To create well rounded, thoughtful, happy individuals, who are effective contributors to the school community and will become successful citizens of the future.

It should inspire pupils by “the lighting of a fire”, to become independent, inquisitive lifelong learners, ready to tackle the next phase of their education.

- To **nurture** pupils by identifying and supporting their individual talents, building self-esteem and developing resilience and perseverance.
- To enable them to **explore** their own lines of enquiry, make links across their learning and experience this in meaningful contexts, discovering for themselves.
- To **achieve** – be the best they can be, whatever their starting point in life.

Our curriculum achieves this through:

... providing learning opportunities developed through our supportive ethos which is inclusive of all. This is centred around a broad and balanced curriculum that develops pupils understanding by building their knowledge and skills in a thematic context. It is designed around the concept of nurture and exploration, developing their self-esteem, confidence and resilience, giving them building blocks to a better future. Our curriculum promotes:

- A balance of knowledge and skills
- Hands on practical learning opportunities.
- Pupil engagement facilitating high aspirations by utilising “stunning starts” - to capture the children and ignite curiosity and “fab finishes”.
- A Rights Respecting ethos which develops collaboration, understanding and tolerance.
- Making links with outdoor learning and their local community through access to a forest school, understanding environmental issues, local and seasonal changes and the impact they have on it. This in turn supports understanding of global issues.
- Enthusiastic staff, keen to expand pupils’ horizons.

- A range of enrichment opportunities, developing lifelong skills.
- Strong pupils voice, developing a thirst for knowledge through their own lines of enquiry.
- Reflective learners.
- “Learning behaviours” that enable pupils to engage with and become successful learners advancing their own knowledge and skills.

A well-educated child in our community will:

- Be thoughtful, caring and friendly.
- Be keen to explore new ideas and persevere in the face of difficulties.
- Have high aspirations of themselves, try their hardest to tackle new challenges to be the best version of themselves.
- Be polite and respectful.
- Have an inquisitive mind.
- Grow in to knowledgeable, responsible citizens who work hard to make a better world for themselves and others.