



The school curriculum consists of the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning and personal growth and development. It covers the formal requirements of the National Curriculum and provides enrichment experiences for the children such as visits to museums, sporting events, residential experiences and visiting musicians and theatre groups. It also includes what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave.

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 full potential. At the beginning of each half term parents are given an overview of the curriculum detailing the themes/topic that will be taught for their child's year group.

## **English**

### Reading

We base our phonics teaching on the Letters and Sounds materials and in Early Years and KS1 we carefully match the books that our children read to their phonic ability. Once children have a Reading Age of 7 years and 7 months, they are able to access Accelerated Reader, which allows children to read a range of books and authors which are carefully matched to their reading ability. This offers interactive computer based resources for reading which can be used at home as well as in the classroom.

Teachers are happy to discuss any aspect of the curriculum and to provide further information and support to parents.

## **Music**

We currently provide music tuition through vocal coaching sessions in years 3 and 6, Brass for year 4 and African drumming/Samba for year 5 and brass tuition for pupils in years 4. In addition to this we have a school choir, who annually perform at Manchester Arena as part of Young Voices as well as at a variety of other events throughout the year. Children sing during assemblies and enjoy singing collectively once a week. We engage professional musicians to perform music from different genres to broaden the children's musical experiences. Through listening to music in assembly and in classes, children learn to appreciate a wide range of music from different traditions, great musicians and composers.

## **Physical Education**

Russell Hall offers its full time pupils two hours of PE provision each week. In year 5 the pupils have a weekly swimming lesson as part of their PE curriculum. We are involved in sports festivals with local schools which include football, rugby, cricket, cross-country

running, dance and athletics events, to name a few. All children take part in the Daily mile at some point during the school day. The school provides children with opportunities to take part in outdoor and adventurous activities so that they can learn about orienteering, learn how to manage risks, develop resilience and learn to work as part of a team.

**Sex and Relationships Education** forms a part of our PSHCE curriculum and covers friendships, relationships and changes. As part of this, in years 4, 5 and 6 children learn about the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty. Parents are able to view the materials used in school and to discuss the programme with the teachers and school nurse.

## **British Values**

The DfE have recently reinforced 'the need to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British Values of Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty and Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs'.

All Russell Hall these values are reinforced regularly in the following ways:

*Democracy* is rife within school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voice heard through our School Council and Pupil Questionnaires. Our school behaviour policy using 'dojo points' can be used for the whole class to work together to receive a reward.

*The Rule of Law* is consistently reinforced throughout school when dealing with behaviour, through specific teaching and school assemblies. Children at Russell Hall are taught the value and reason behind these laws; that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. (See Behaviour Policy). Visits from other authorities, e.g. Police, Fire Service, Life Guard, Nurse etc are encouraged throughout the year.

### *Individual Liberty*

Within Russell Hall, pupils are readily encouraged to make choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we provide boundaries and an environment to ensure the safety of all.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise these rights and personal freedoms through our E-Safety, PSHE, SMSC lessons and assemblies. Pupils can participate in numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, allowing them freedom to make choices.

### *Mutual Respect*

Our school ethos revolves around our 'Learning Muscles'; **Collaboration**, **Curiosity**, **Perseverance**, **Resourcefulness**, **Respect** and **Reflection**. Children are taught and encouraged through direct teaching, discussion and assemblies the value and importance of mutual respect and understanding of each other.

### *Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs*

This is achieved through enhancing pupil understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by providing opportunities to experience such diversity through visits to various places of worship. Assemblies take place to discuss prejudice and prejudice-based bullying, especially during our yearly dedicated Anti-Bullying Week.

## **Special Educational Needs Provision**

We aim that all children will have full access to the National Curriculum and every opportunity to access new and exciting experiences. Children's progress is regularly

assessed and where appropriate, work is planned around a child's particular needs to support them to make progress.

We meet regularly with parents to ensure you are kept informed and involved as much as possible so we can work together to support your child.

Our school SENCO is Mr Clarke.

### **Equal Opportunities**

At Russell Hall Primary School we value the individuality of all of our children. We are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve their highest potential. We do this by taking account of pupils' varied experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, and have high expectations of all children.

## **Standards**

Teacher assessment is undertaken regularly and children's progress and attainment are monitored carefully. Information is shared with parents each term.

Formal assessments (SATs) are undertaken by children at the end of Year 2 and Year 6.

Results are available on the DfE website:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/establishments/urn/107433/russell-hall-primary-school>

## **E-safety**

Parents should read the page in their child's journal called 'using the Internet Responsibly' alongside their child, agree to it and sign it. E-Safety is delivered both discretely and reinforced during teaching of IT and computing using the Common Sense Media resources.

For more information please visit [www.commonsensemedia.org](http://www.commonsensemedia.org)

## **Pastoral Care**

The progress and welfare of each pupil is a core element of the care provide by the staff of the School, (Class-Teacher, Headteacher and Ancillary Staff), as well as visiting staff, (School Doctors, Nurses and others), who welcome a close liaison with the home.

There are a number of staff who hold a first-aid qualification.

Mrs Hargrave, our Family and Pupil Liason Officer, is happy to help if you have any questions or need any advice or support.

## **Homework**

We believe that homework is important and a valuable part of the children's learning. We aim to offer information sessions for parents to help keep you up to date with the changes in education such as the increasing emphasis on phonics and the new strategies for maths.

Please see the school website for a copy of the Homework Policy, which outlines the expectations for different year groups.

## **Visits and trips**

Class-work is often enriched by educational journeys beyond the local environment. Where expenses (entrance fees etc.) are incurred the school requests voluntary contributions from parents.

Visits in recent years have included the Beatles Museum, The Deep, Bradford Cathedral, a Buddhist monastery, Cliffe Castle Museum and the Imax.

We have also been able to provide residential visits for children in year 4 and year 6. Further details of our Charging and Remissions policy are available to view on our website.

## **Extra-curricular Clubs and activities**

There are a number of clubs which are offered by staff on a termly basis. Examples of clubs we have run are Tag Rugby, Performing Arts, Table Tennis, Basketball, Young Voices Choir and Art club.