West Bridgford Junior School

Statement and Information

At West Bridgford Junior School, we are committed to providing a curriculum that helps all pupils thrive and feel confident that they can succeed. Our aim is to provide children with an engaging, relevant and empowering knowledge-based curriculum that equips them for today and prepares them for tomorrow. We work hard to provide the best education for our children, developing a love of learning that will remain with them into adulthood. Lifelong learners see the value of learning and view it as an empowering activity where they actively collaborate in the learning process. They take responsibility for their own learning and seek opportunities to extend their knowledge and understanding.

At WBJS we endeavour to produce a happy, caring atmosphere in which our children can learn. We are keen to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in all aspects of their education, not just intellectually, but also socially, physically, and creatively. We aim to provide a wide range of learning experiences through which children will gain a positive self-image to help them on their path to becoming happy and successful citizens.

We use a topic-based approach to planning, choosing themes which engage, motivate and inspire the children. Each topic begins with a 'Stunning Start' in order to hook the children into their learning and ends with an 'Outstanding Outcome' which provides an opportunity to showcase the learning that has taken place throughout the topic. At the start of each academic year, each teaching team are given an overview of all the objectives that need covering in their year group. These are organised into subjects on our Curriculum Maps. Together as a team, staff plan a yearly overview (long term plan) which identifies overarching topics and how each curriculum subject will be covered. Once this is complete, staff add greater detail for each half term and sequence learning into medium term plans, deciding which objectives will be covered when.



School Values

Our school values were chosen in partnership with our children, parents and governors and underpin our approach to learning throughout school. They are:



WBJS Champions

Our seven learning champions help us to improve and reinforce our learning behaviours and attitudes. These were designed by the children and each have several 'I can' statements which help children to have a better understanding of what makes a successful learner and a caring citizen. Our seven WBJS Champions are:



Year 3 & 4

"I ask questions about my current topics; I carry out research using prompts from my teacher; I want to know how and why things work; I notice patterns and connections in my learning; I love gaining new knowledge in school"



Year 5 & 6

"I ask questions about my current topics and the wider world; I carry out research independently; I think of possible reasons for how and why things work; I can explain patterns and connections in my learning; I love gaining new knowledge in school and beyond"



Year 3 & 4

"I am happy to be creative; I think up new ideas and questions; I think outside the box; I let my imagination go; I can think of a way to solve a problem"



Year 5 & 6

"I seek new opportunities to be creative; I have confidence to create new ideas; I challenge the norm and take risks with ideas; I draw on my imagination to inspire ideas; I can think of different solutions to a problem"



Year 3 & 4

"I have the confidence to give things a try; I volunteer ideas; I understand what the term 'comfort zone' means; I sometimes step out of my 'comfort zone'"



Year 5 & 6

"I independently take opportunities for new learning and experiences; I volunteer ideas regularly; I feel confident enough in myself to step out of my 'comfort zone' and take risks"



Year 3 & 4

"I listen to others to help my learning; I can share my ideas when it is my turn; I can take on an allocated role; I am comfortable to ask for help from my peers; I can support others with their learning"



Year 5 & 6

"I can actively listen with interest to learn from others; I can communicate my opinions and ideas thoughtfully; I can select a role within a group depending on my strengths; I have a natural empathy ensuring that I make people feel valued even if I disagree; I actively seek and accept help and offer guidance to others"



Year 3 & 4

"I know what my strengths are and can talk about things I need to get better at; I review my work with support; I can identify the best bits of my work; I try to be better than last time"



Year 5 & 6

"I can set myself targets to improve my work; I independently review my work; I can celebrate my own achievements; I always strive to be better than last time"



Year 3 & 4

"I know that it is important to keep trying; I know that I must try to use strategies and prompts before asking for help; I don't give up"



Year 5 & 6

"I can learn from my mistakes and try something new to move forward; I know that getting things wrong is important and part of my learning journey; I can adapt and try again"



Year 3 & 4

"I recognise other people's differences; I understand what makes a good citizen; I show respect to everyone and everything; I use kind and helpful language"



Year 5 & 6

"I can understand and celebrate others' cultures and differences; I demonstrate the ability to be a good citizen; I model respectful behaviour and intervene if I see examples of disrespect; I always show kindness and empathy to others"

Curriculum Design Principles

When designing and planning our curriculum, we had several design principles which underpinned our thinking. These are outlined below:



Our Teaching Principles

Purposeful

- All lessons, sequences of learning and outcomes have clear purpose and this is shared with the children
- Learning is relevant to our children and their community

High Expectations

- > Teachers demonstrate the same high standards that they expect from the children they teach
- Children are proud of the work they produce
- > Teachers consistently expect pupils to be the best they can be

Challenge for all

- Learning is planned and resourced skilfully to ensure every child is fully participating and achieving
- High quality questions provoke and extend children's thinking
- Work will be difficult enough for children to engage in healthy

Collaboration and Independence

- Teachers support children to collaborate successfully
- Teachers facilitate independence by providing appropriate models and scaffolds

Knowing more and remembering more

- Lessons are designed to build on children's prior knowledge and are carefully sequenced
- Learning is regularly revisited to ensure children retain key knowledge and make connections
- Teachers provide regular opportunities for practice and retrieval

Broader Curriculum and Development of Cultural Capital

At West Bridgford Junior School we are committed to providing an education which supports children to achieve their full potential as citizens, leaders and employees in a rapidly changing world. Our children are provided with a broad and balanced curriculum that is enhanced by a vast range of activities in and outside the classroom.



Lower and upper school Choir

School orchestra (band)

Arts Week

Christmas Production

Carol Concert

Instrumental Concerts

Friends of WBJS Concerts

Rattle and Roll after school club

Art Club

Area Band



Sports coaches – lacrosse,

dance, paceball

Sports clubs – tennis, netball, football,

gymnastics, athletics, multi-

sport

Health & Sport Fortnight

Sport competitions

Bikeability

Sports Day

Careers Day – a wide range of visitors in school

Links with secondary schools

Toast – making and selling toast at playtimes

Pupil Parliament – school council and Rushcliffe Parliament

Aspiration



NSPCC assembly and workshops

Water Safety

PCSO Visits

e-safety curriculum

Bikeability

Road safety team



Cresswell Crags

Dukes Barn WW2 History experience

PGL

Egyptian Day National Holocaust centre

Magna science museum Arctic Explorer

Southwell Workhouse West Bridgford Library Visits

Visits & Visitors Methodist Church visits



Visits to places of worship

Values assemblies

'Picture News' assemblies

Arts Week – understanding different

cultures

Eco Club



Children in Need

Comic Relief

Foodbank collections

Poppy Day

Methodist Church visits at

NSPCC

Christmas and Easter

Friends of WBJS Concerts

Visiting care homes to sing to residents

Viking Visit





Cooking

First aid

Coding

Money skills

Swimming

Road safety

Life saving