



Oxley Primary School: Our Curriculum

Mission Statement

Oxley School aims to provide a caring, secure and stimulating environment in which all children can achieve the highest academic, personal and social standards, reaching their individual goals through a close partnership between home and school.

The simple motto “I can” is at the heart of all we do, and it underpins our approach to the curriculum, too.

At Oxley, we believe that our curriculum should bring learning to life, through real-life scenarios and creative experiences. We have high expectations of what all our children, no matter what their background or individual needs, can achieve. Our inclusive and engaging curriculum aims to prepare our children for life in modern Britain. We want them to be well-rounded citizens, with a positive self-image, respect for themselves and others and a life-long thirst for learning.

Oxley Primary School follows the National Curriculum programmes of study for Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 5). More information about the National Curriculum can be found by following [this link](#):

Early Years and Foundation Stage (EYFS)

At Oxley Primary School, we follow the EYFS curriculum. Children learn through a wide variety of first hand, imaginative, real life and practical learning opportunities . We aim to ensure that we build links between home and school for a strong working partnership. A smooth transition between pre-school and school ensures that skills are extended. We create a secure, stimulating and caring environment where every child feels valued, happy and able to learn. Positive behaviour strategies and the use of rewards help children to learn how to socialise, respect others and be ready to progress. Fun and creativity is key to learning.

The prime areas of learning:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development

The specific areas of learning:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

Characteristics of effective learning:

- playing and exploring
- active learning
- creating and thinking critically

English

Our English curriculum includes reading, writing, handwriting, spelling, punctuation, grammar and speaking and listening. At Oxley we promote high standards of language by equipping pupils with a strong command of spoken English and extending their vocabulary, through speaking and listening activities, games and role play.

Phonics is taught through daily lessons across Foundation Stage and Key Stage One, and continued into Key Stage Two through spelling and further phonic activities. We use the Floppy Phonic scheme to enable children to recognise and develop phonemes and letter patterns. Children are then able to begin reading with growing independence.

We develop a love of reading through a wide range of exciting texts and literature, acknowledging our rich and varied literary heritage and promoting reading for enjoyment. Children are encouraged to read independently, with good understanding for both pleasure and information.

At Oxley we teach children to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. Children are encouraged to plan, draft and edit their work, collaborating with peers to help improve the quality and presentation. We use Talk for Writing approach across the school, to enrich children's language, grammar and

writing skills. This approach is based on the principles of how children learn, through imitating key language orally and learning a wide range of stories.

Mathematics

Our Maths curriculum includes: number, measurement, geometry (shape and space), statistics (handling data), algebra, and using and applying mathematics. Our school covers all aspects of Mathematics in the National Curriculum through a range of strategies included in the school's planning. We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- become fluent in the basics of mathematics, including mental arithmetic skills;
- develop understanding of concepts;
- recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately;
- reason mathematically by: following a line of enquiry; identifying relationships; making generalisations; developing an argument; justifying or proving statements using mathematical language;
- can solve problems by applying their mathematical skills with increasing sophistication;
- develop the skills of perseverance and resilience when faced with challenges.

Science

Our Science curriculum places an emphasis on developing children's skills of scientific enquiry. At Key Stage 1, Science is usually linked, where possible, to a theme or topic.

At Key Stage 2 pupils learn about a wider range of living things, materials and physical phenomena. Across the school, children make links between ideas and explain their thinking in a variety of ways. Pupils apply their knowledge and understanding of science to real-life contexts, including their personal health. They carry out more systematic investigations, working on their own and with others. They use a range of reference sources in their work. They talk about their work and its significance, using a wide range of scientific language, conventional diagrams, charts, graphs and ICT to communicate their ideas.

Music

Much of our music teaching is based on an interactive scheme called **Charanga**. This gives a framework for children to develop their musical skills and knowledge as they progress through the school. Where possible, Music is linked to topics and themes. Children are given the opportunities to sing as well as use a range of percussion and tuned instruments. They are taught to appreciate and critique a range of music from different cultures and to create their own compositions. In addition, we provide peripatetic music lessons and other opportunities such as "Rock Steady" for children who wish to learn to play an instrument. We also take part in local and national singing events such as Young Voices.

Design and Technology

At Oxley, we place emphasis on the practical and inspirational aspects of the subject. The children use their creative and imaginative skills to design and make products that solve real-life problems

or are linked to topic work. We teach children about the principles of nutrition and healthy eating through a range of activities. We maximise the opportunities D+T provides for children to develop and apply their English, Mathematical and artistic skills.

Art and Design

At Oxley we have been awarded the Artsmark award for our dedication to the arts. The Art and Design curriculum includes learning about various artists, designers and architects, allowing the children to create work in their style and increase their awareness and appreciation of different kinds of art. We teach the children a wide range of skills and techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture, which are developed across the school. Children are encouraged to use a wide range of media, evaluate creative work, experiment, explore ideas and record experiences.

Geography

In Geography children develop their knowledge of the Earth, the United Kingdom and the locality around them. We endeavour to inspire a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people, deepening the children's understanding of both physical and human processes. Children are taught a range of geographical skills including interpreting, collecting and analysing, using maps, globes, photographs and field work.

History

Our high-quality history curriculum, taught through cross-curricular topics, helps pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. It inspires pupils' curiosity to know more about the past. Teaching equips pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.

Modern Foreign Languages (French)

At Oxley, children are introduced to some basic vocabulary, such as greetings, at Foundation and Key Stage 1. In Key Stage 2 (Year 3 onwards), we use the **i Languages** scheme to provide a framework for children to progress in their learning. We place emphasis on practical communication skills in French, to prepare the children for further MFL learning when they move into Key Stage 3.

Computing

Our computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and engage positively and safely with the virtual world. Computing has deep links with mathematics, science and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and

artificial systems. We use programming and coding to help pupils learn computer science and interact with the digital world with confidence. E-safety is an integral part of our computing provision.

Physical Education

Our PE curriculum provides the children with opportunities to engage in a range of physical activities that develop their confidence and physical health. We aim for children to develop positive attitudes to physical activities and sports that will last them a lifetime. Our PE curriculum includes:

- Games, gymnastics, small and large apparatus, dance and outdoor work;
- Key Stage 2 work includes athletics and swimming (KS2);
- Access to professional coaches, who work with children to develop skills.

PE also enables the school to promote further our core values of fairness and respect. We have strong links with our local family of schools, which enable children to participate fully in a range of competitions.

Religious Education

At Oxley our Religious Education curriculum has an emphasis on Christianity. Key religions, symbols, customs, important religious figures, rituals and festivals are taught. Our school bases its scheme of work on the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus. Facts and knowledge are learnt alongside respect and enquiry. Lessons include artefacts, creativity and discussion.

Personal, social and health education (PSHE) and Citizenship

Alongside our PSHE curriculum, we have a policy for Sex & Relationships Education and Drugs Education. We use ideas and themes from SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) to teach. We have achieved Healthy School status and promote healthy lifestyles. Children learn through discussion, role play and real life activities. Children are given knowledge to enable them to make healthy choices. Through work on relationships, they learn how to socialise and interact with each other positively. They are also empowered to develop a strong self-esteem and life skills.

PHSE and Citizenship provides one of the principal means through which we teach the children about British values, including:

- honesty
- respect
- democracy
- fairness
- responsibility