



Marykirk Primary - Our Curriculum Rationale

At Marykirk Primary School our overarching aim is to work in partnership with parents and the local communities to create an ethos which ensures a positive, respectful and stimulating environment, thus nurturing every child towards reaching their full potential and enabling them to have the skills and confidence to embrace the world in which we live.

To achieve this vision it is essential that we develop a structured curriculum based on a shared understanding of what we want for our children and how we are going to achieve it - **Our Curriculum Rationale**.

At Marykirk Primary School we have worked collaboratively to devise a curriculum rationale which underpins our key values for learning and the development of the whole child. Our Curriculum Rationale is built upon the following components:

The ethos and life of the school

Developing a **positive ethos** lays the foundations on which to build learning and teaching. Our curriculum offers a broad range of learning experiences, taking in to account the **needs** and **interests** of our pupils. Children's opinions and ideas are **listened to** and **valued**, and through our Pupil Council and RRS, JRSO, ECO, Health and Fairtrade working parties children are encouraged to be involved in developing the work of the school and thus having a positive impact on school improvements. There is a mutual sense of **trust, respect** and **shared values and aims**.

Opportunities for Personal Achievement

Through assemblies we share and **celebrate achievements** within and out with the school environment, sharing in each other's successes and achievements. These successes are then displayed on our achievements wall and shared with parents, families and the wider community through our monthly newsletters and school website. Through **Personal Learning Plans**, children are being encouraged to reflect on their progress and identify next steps in their learning, thus becoming **independent** and **responsible** learners. **Extra-curricular activities** and clubs are being

developed to maximise opportunities for our pupils to actively engage in a wide variety of activities, encouraging the development of skills and knowledge in a wider context.

Teaching and Learning

We have a responsibility to provide children with a **Broad General Education** from pre-school to S3. Within Marykirk Primary we will use well planned programmes of study to ensure coverage of **experiences and outcomes** across all **8 curricular areas**, allowing **flexibility** to cater for pupil needs and interests. Opportunities for **Interdisciplinary learning** will be encouraged where possible, maximising the teaching and learning experiences for our young learners, encouraging **transfer of skills** and knowledge across curricular areas. Children will be involved in planning their learning experiences, thus enhancing the depth and breadth of our curriculum. The 7 design principles are considered to ensure our curriculum offers **Challenge and enjoyment, Personalisation and choice, Progression, Coherence, Relevance, Breadth and Depth** for our young people. **Active** learning will be encouraged both inside our classrooms and using the **outdoor** learning environment. Through various group work such as Garden Gang and Baking Group we will enhance the development of essential life skills as well as encouraging positive social interactions.

Our curriculum will enhance the development of the whole child, encouraging our young people to become confident individuals, responsible citizens, successful learners and effective contributors.

