



TEACHING & LEARNING STATEMENT

Elms Farm Primary School is committed to ensuring that all children are provided with the very best opportunities to succeed. We believe that our pupils' primary education lays the foundations not only for their future academic success, but also their development in becoming happy, healthy and successful members of the community.

Our Key values are threaded through school life:

Ambition: Pupils are encouraged to be ambitious in their learning and their future aspirations without 'ceilings' to their possibilities.

Community: To respect other learners in our school community and recognise the value of learning in the school and wider community.

Equality: That everyone should be treated equally and have the same opportunities.

Our staff, value the holistic development of all of our pupils, committed to overcoming any barriers they may face. The EFPS team develop strong relationships with our pupils and their families to develop a community of learning and pride in our children. Through our commitment to effective teaching & learning, our school expects all staff to:

- Be committed to ensuring that each and every child reaches their full potential in all areas of their development.
- Adopt flexible teaching styles to meet the needs of our pupils and the way in which they learn best.
- Be committed to pupil progress.
- Use assessment for learning to identify key learning opportunities to maximise progress.
- Use questioning to ascertain pupils' understanding, develop their explanation skills and to provide triggers to develop curiosity.
- Plan & deliver lessons which challenge all learners at every level.
- Provide holistic support for our pupils, identifying the impact of social and emotional needs on learning.
- Maintain high standards in all areas.
- Develop motivated and curious 'life-long' learners.

Our Curriculum

English

Our English curriculum is intrinsically linked to our Topic Themes in each year group-this makes our learning meaningful. We maintain a tight focus on developing a love of Reading throughout the school, encouraging our pupils to value this important skill. Our writing curriculum is progressive throughout the school, ensuring that children develop their writing across a range of genres.



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Maths

Elms Farm strives to ensure that children develop a positive, 'can do' attitude towards mathematics that will stay with them throughout their life. We are currently embedding Maths Mastery as part of a Teacher Research Group. Concrete, visual representations are used in every lesson to develop pupils' understanding of key concepts (CPA approach). Pupils are expected to master key skills of logical reasoning, problem solving skills and the ability to think in abstract ways and apply them in a variety of contexts. Maths Fluency is developed throughout our curriculum and mathematical language is further developed through the use of 'Maths Talk'.

Topic & the wider curriculum

Elms Farm enables our pupils to learn about the world around them through a broad and balanced curriculum. The Cornerstones scheme is used as a framework for our curriculum planning. Teachers are expected to plan exciting and child led lessons which creates curiosity and interest through the use of different teaching styles.

Our curriculum is enriched through Educational Visits to spark interest in learning. These are valued throughout the school in addition to our Arts Curriculum which enthuses our pupils with creativity and expression.

Key Skills

The curriculum at Elms Farm Primary School has been designed to enable our pupils to :

- Be confident & competent readers
- Be able to write in a variety of styles and to present information in different ways
- Apply their mathematical knowledge in a variety of contexts.
- Know about the world we live in and its key moments in History
- Have rich experiences to take them beyond their local community
- Be curious about the world around them and able to learn with resilience
- Be ready for the world beyond primary school, to develop their interests and to be ambitious.
- Present their ideas in different ways

We have designed our curriculum to provide our pupils with the key skills needed to be successful citizens, as outlined in research by The Sutton Trust (2017).



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Self-control & self-discipline	Adaptability & Resilience	Taking responsibility	Self-reflection
Our place in the world	Aspirations	Care and respect	Appreciation
Livelihood	Communication	Cultural diversity & equality	Technological advancements

Inclusion

We recognise that all learners may need additional support academically, socially and emotionally. Our staff develop a good understanding of our pupils to ensure that support is implemented to overcome barriers to learning.

Our lesson planning ensures that all learners make progress, whether through additional learning support, differentiation or home-school support.

Assessment

In addition to formal half-termly assessments and statutory testing, teachers utilise assessment for learning to amend their teaching during lessons. We recognise that immediate feedback is the most effective for our learners during lessons. Post lesson marking provides our pupils with action points to progress their skills.

Teachers and Senior Leaders monitor progress at half-term review meetings to identify possible barriers to learning. We respond quickly to ensure that these meetings trigger additional support for targeted pupils.