A Curriculum for *Our* Children

Morley Primary
November 2019

July 2018 annual curriculum review

Morley children. Many are:

- Well travelled
- Articulate
- Confident
- From affluent families
- From career parents

The curriculum at Morley Primary is designed to provide children with the knowledge and skill-set to succeed in their primary education, prepare them for their future educational steps and to fully equip them for life's unknown *adventures.*

Key government curricula-knowledge is learnt to an in-depth understanding, alongside a fundamental set of core skills that are taught with the aim of mastering these skills for our twenty-first century learners.

Deepen, Develop, Open children to the world, key moments in time, *the things we want our children to know about – no shackles or constraints.*

What skills do these professions need:

- Doctor
- Lawyer
- Teacher
- Author
- Vet
- Performer
- Engineer
- Hairdresser
- Entrepreneur

Life Skills to run alongside National Curriculum knowledge…

- R 1. Research – Organising info, note-taking, fact finding, interpreting info
- P 2. Presentation – Written, technologically, spoken
- D 3. Data analysis – Proving and arguing using facts, figures, money, charts and tables.
- T 4. Team work – collaboration, leadership
- E 5. Evaluation and Improvement – Reflection, Editing, Refining,
- V 6. Verbal – listening, discussion, arguing, debating, persuasion, opinions, decisions
- C 7. Creating and Performing – Music, Art, Drama,
- H 8. Happier Living

October 2018

From this came our website statement:

The curriculum at Morley Primary is designed to provide children with the knowledge and skill-set to succeed in their primary education, prepare them for their future educational steps and to fully equip them for life's unknown adventures.

Key government curricula-knowledge is learnt to an in-depth understanding, alongside a fundamental set of core skills that are taught with the aim of mastering these skills for our twenty-first century learners. We want our children to know about their local area, and how it fits into the world; to understand the effect we have on our planet, and how we interact with each other; and to have a wide range of creative skills. Our children have high academic standards, but we aim to give them aspirations and possibilities well beyond the classroom. We aim to excite them into learning by providing a rich and varied curriculum which enables them to see beyond their horizons.

All pupils in school are taught in mixed age classes, and study the National Curriculum. The staff plan exciting themes which incorporate all aspects of the National Curriculum within a programme of cross-curricular activities, as well as discrete teaching where appropriate. OfSTED (2012) said that our curriculum was incredibly rich and that children had a 'magical experience' in lessons where 'the atmosphere is electric'.

Our curriculum themes

Staff base the learning around half term, or termly, themes. Our themes are chosen to give children a wide view of our world and its past, and to give them new interests and possibilities. As they follow in the footsteps of Howard Carter or Mary Anning they discover how our understanding of ancient worlds grew, and they develop a love of finding out more about past cultures and civilisations; work on space, early Islamic medicine or technological inventions shows how we have been able to hypothesise, test and create over time, and develops children's ability to think scientifically and creatively. These themes are enriched by a range of external visits and visitors, for example Class 2 visit the Bagshaw Museum for their Egyptians theme, Class 3 put Scrooge on trial in the Courts of Justice, and Class 1 enjoy a day at Warwick Castle. We have had owls in school, and a variety of rainforest creepy crawlies. Class 3 take part in the Spires project as part of their design and technology work, and we have welcomed several authors and illustrators. We have worked with the RSPB and have spent a day learning circus skills. Many of these themes incorporate a book study which links a quality text to the term's theme: Street Child by Berlie Doherty, The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson or Stig of the Dump by Clive King.

September 2019 annual curriculum review

Our children are the leaders of the future. They have the capacity and potential to go forward and achieve their dreams. Our role is to inspire them to dream and aspire, and to give them the skills, knowledge, resilience and determination to reach their goals.

Morley children exemplify the characteristics of children who will succeed in life – they have so much in their favour. They are:

- Well Educated
- Well travelled
- Articulate
- Confident
- From affluent families
- From career parents
- All opportunities available to them
- A small school with countless opportunities
- Travel the world
- *With great power comes great responsibility*

Our aim is to:

To foster children who are aware of the world and their position within it by knowing how lucky they are and how others are far less fortunate. To actively be able to look out for, support and show kindness to others, so they become citizens of the world whose aim is the betterment of society. To know and to be proud of where they are from and to master a range of key skills which provide children with the keys for unlocking our aim.

From a child's perspective:

To help children to be aware of the world and where they fit into it by understanding how lucky they are and how others are not as fortunate. To be able to look out for, support and show kindness to others, so they become citizens of the world whose aim is to make the world a better place to live in. To know about and to be proud of Derby. To master a range of 8 key skills which provide help them to achieve their dreams.

> "You are all superheroes" **you have the ability to ruin someone's day and make them upset, scared or anxious OR you have the power to make someone feel on top of the world.**

How do we do this?

- Consider:
  - Poverty
  - Climate
  - Opportunity
  - Disability
  - Race
  - Or any number of ways the human race use to discriminate

- *Don't become over preoccupied by your child's academic ability, but instead:*
  - *Teach them to sit with those sitting alone.*
  - *Teach them to be kind.*
  - *Teach them to offer their help*
  - *Teach them to be a friend to the lonely*
  - *Teach them to encourage others*
  - *Teach them to think about other people*
  - *Teach them to share*
  - *Teach them to look for the good*
  - *This is how they'll change the world.*

Life Skills:

- Not an add on
- LO reflected
- Children aware of the skills they are learning and developing
- Children know how to get better at these skills.
- Children can explain what a good version of the skill would look like.
- Balance between knowledge heavy curriculum and skills.

Website November 2019 statement

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The curriculum at Morley Primary is designed to provide children with the knowledge and skill-set to succeed in their primary education, prepare them for their future educational steps and to fully equip them for life's unknown adventures.

However, 'with great power comes great responsibility'. (The Peter Parker Principle)

We aim to foster children who are aware of the world and their position within it by knowing how lucky they are and how others are far less fortunate; to actively be able to look out for, support and show kindness to others, so they become citizens of the world whose aim is the betterment of society; to know and to be proud of where they are from; and to master a range of key skills which will provide them with the keys for unlocking the world.

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