

Due to mixed aged classes our Curriculum runs on a two year cycle



At Firle we provide a creative curriculum based around the Cornerstones Curriculum.

With the new National Curriculum being introduced by the Government this year (2014-15) we have been working hard to refresh our school approach and provision for pupils. As part of this work we have implemented the new Cornerstones Curriculum, a nationally recognised approach for delivering outstanding learning opportunities for children.

What is the Cornerstones Curriculum?

The Cornerstones Curriculum is a creative and thematic approach to learning that is mapped to the new 2014 Primary National Curriculum to ensure comprehensive coverage of national expectations. Our new curriculum is delivered through Imaginative Learning Projects (ILPs) which provide a rich menu of exciting and motivating learning activities that make creative links between all aspects of our children's learning.

We believe children learn better when they are encouraged to use their imagination and apply their learning to engaging contexts. Our new curriculum provides lots of learning challenges throughout the academic year that requires children to solve problems, apply themselves creatively and express their knowledge and understanding effectively across the curriculum.

Cornerstones also provide a rigorous essential skills framework that outlines the end of year expectations in all subjects. These essential skills are tied to activities and are age related so that staff can track children's progress and identify their individual learning needs.

How it Works?

Children will progress through four stage of learning in each ILP - Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express. To find out more about these stages please click on the link through to Cornerstones website:

<http://www.cornerstoneseducation.co.uk/Learning-Philosophy.aspx>



As a school, we are delighted to be introducing a new curriculum this year as part of our exciting developments. The Cornerstones Curriculum is based on inspirational learning activities which take place in a classroom environment that allows children to learn in a way that motivates and interests them. Cornerstones will provide our children with a good level of challenge, giving them opportunities to solve problems, apply themselves creatively and express their knowledge and understanding across the curriculum.

Every year group will experience 6 Imaginative Learning Projects in a year. Each individual project is split into sections, which see children progress through four stages of learning: Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express.

Engage

At the 'Engage' stage, children:

- gain memorable first-hand experiences, such as going on a visit or inviting a special visitor into school
- enjoy 'WOW' experiences
- get an exciting introduction to a topic or theme
- begin researching and setting enquiry questions
- get lots of opportunities to make observations
- develop spoken language skills
- take part in sensory activities
- have lots of fun to fully 'engage' with their new topic.

Develop

At the 'Develop' stage, children:

- improve their knowledge and understanding of the topic

- develop and practise their new skills
- compose, make, do, build, investigate, explore, write for different purposes and read across the curriculum
- research their own questions and those set by others
- follow new pathways of enquiry based on their interests
- complete homework activities that support their learning.

Innovate

At the 'Innovate' stage, children:

- apply skills, knowledge and understanding in real-life contexts
- solve real or imagined problems using everything they've learnt
- get inspired by imaginative and creative opportunities
- revisit anything not fully grasped at the 'Develop' stage.

Express

At the 'Express' stage, children:

- become the performers, experts and informers
- share their achievements with parents, classmates and the community
- evaluate finished products and processes
- link what they have learnt to where they started
- celebrate their achievements!

To see further details about the content of the Imaginative Learning Projects for each year group, please open the documents Above.