

Additional Curriculum Information

At Robert Le Kyng School, we recognise the importance of a curriculum that excites and stimulates children. Pupils follow a curriculum based on the National Curriculum to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of the world. This includes:

English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, Art, Design Technology, Geography, History, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE). Pupils in years 3 to 6 also learn to communicate in French.

Recognising the importance of both academic and personal development, we strive to enable every child to reach their full potential. In support of this, we want our pupils to develop: the ability to work independently and within a range of teams, communication skills, resilience, self-confidence and a love of learning that will continue through into their adult lives.

At Robert Le Kyng School, our curricular delivery is planned around a series of topics that maximise cross-curricular links whilst ensuring that there is a clear development in the learning of key skills and knowledge. These topics are based around the elements of the National Curriculum and are flexible in design so that each year teachers can plan the topics for their year group. In support of this, our classes are arranged in single year groups, with a broad and balanced curriculum being planned for across the year. Teachers share termly plans with parents via the school website, and in paper form.

English

In the developing technological world in which we live, it is important that children learn the skills of communication in both the spoken and written form. Opportunities for children are planned to develop speaking and listening skills such as debates, performing poetry and hot seating character roles. At Robert Le Kyng, we love reading and encourage children to read for pleasure, and information, across a wide range of material. Children are taught with the support of a wide range of reading material including daily whole class text, guided reading sessions and personal reading times. In both key stages, spelling patterns and strategies are taught throughout the week, and at Key Stage 1 phonics is taught using the Read, Write Inc. programme. This develops children's encoding (building up words for spelling) and decoding (breaking words down for reading). We have a well-stocked library from which children are able to borrow books for in the class and at home.

The skills of writing are taught through our daily literacy lessons across a wide range of genre. In addition to this, regular opportunities are given for the children to apply these skills in other areas of the curriculum such as science and topic work.

Punctuation and grammar are taught as part of the daily literacy lessons. Each term, targets are set for each year group, based on an area of punctuation or grammar, which the school has identified in need of improvement. Teachers will then ensure they focus on this specific area when teaching and assessing. Handwriting and presentation are a focus throughout the school.

Mathematics

Mathematics is essential to everyday life. Our aim is to develop confident mathematicians who can apply their knowledge and strategies into a range of situations, often linked to real life situations, e.g. getting change when shopping; telling the time and calculating how much more is needed when saving. Through our planned curriculum across the school, we teach children a range of mental and written strategies; all children learn known number facts such as number bonds and multiplication and division facts. Children play fun games during the warm-up part of the lesson to learn and reinforce mental strategies – those parents who attend our maths workshops receive some of these games to play at home. Regular opportunities are given to apply these skills through problem solving and mathematical reasoning. We incorporate a style of investigation known as SNIVEL (stop; notice; investigate; verbalise & explain; link) to identify patterns and raise questions about maths. We use layered targets across the school to raise achievement in areas identified as needing support – e.g. mental subtraction or written multiplication.

Science

Our science curriculum covers a range of natural phenomena to enable children to develop as scientists and understand the world around them. Children are encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, use their five senses, and develop skills such as being able to predict how things will behave or analyse causes. Through first-hand experience, children are encouraged to challenge and develop their own ideas and understanding. Children are encouraged to ask questions and to develop the skills needed to investigate. Our planning is based around the National Curriculum, with relevant links made to other topics where appropriate.

History

History, both ancient and modern, is an exciting part of the curriculum which we try to involve in many of our themes. At Robert Le Kyng School, we believe that children should learn about Britain's past and that of the wider world. Children are given opportunities to study a range of sources of evidence, develop their questioning skills and think about the impact of key developments through our history. The work that we cover enables children to develop a greater sense of chronology and the importance of learning from the past. As with geography, where relevant, links are made across topics.

Geography

At Robert Le Kyng, we believe that geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. The children are encouraged to generate and answer questions about the natural and human worlds, locally, nationally and across the world. Through our outdoor education curriculum, the children are given opportunities to visit a range of local environments such as Avebury, Sugar Loaf Mountain and Braeside enabling them to gain first-hand experience of the world around us. This helps to develop knowledge of places and environments throughout the world. Different societies and cultures are explored. This helps children realise how we rely on each other on a global scale. Children are encouraged to think about their place in the world, their values and their rights and responsibilities to other people and the environment. Like history, geography is often taught in a cross curricular way with relevant key skills and knowledge being developed through topic work.

Computing

Our new computing curriculum has five key aspects: Programming, e-safety, Multimedia, Handling data and Technology in our lives. These aspects are covered every term by every year group from Foundation Stage to Year 6.

We are following the Somerset eLiM (e-learning & information management) scheme of work. The children are learning to become digital communicators who are digitally literate, digital investigators who are logical and creative, digital creators who can develop ideas and digital citizens who are safe and responsible.

We use iPad's, netbooks, laptops and interactive whiteboards to enhance our learning across all areas of the curriculum. E-Safety is a priority in our school; it is taught every term and we are reviewing our practice regularly.

RE

The religious education curriculum taught at Robert Le Kyng follows the Discovery RE Scheme of Work. This is an enquiry based scheme that has been written in line with the Agreed RE Syllabus for Swindon. We aim to develop the children's understanding of the major world major faiths and a greater understanding of the world in which we live. Each enquiry starts from the children's own life experiences using these as a bridge into the investigation of the religion being studied.

PE

At Robert Le Kyng, we deliver a PE curriculum to inspire and motivate children to develop both a love of sport and a competitive spirit. Children are given opportunities to develop their skills across a wide range of sports and disciplines; not just football - we teach fifteen different sports. To support the curriculum, the school offers a wide range of extra-curricular clubs such as fencing and yoga. Children are given

opportunities to compete in local sports festivals. In year three, children are given opportunities to develop their swimming skills. We have a school hall, large field and three hard outdoor sports surfaces. We believe that physical education is a key area of the curriculum to help children develop a range of positive personal skills and attitudes to life.

PSHE (Personal, social, health and economic education)

As children grow and develop, our PSHE curriculum is designed to enable children to thrive and talk about issues arising in their everyday lives e.g. drug awareness, relationships and life in Modern Britain. At Robert Le Kyng, we want our children to develop confidence and responsibility whilst developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people. Our PSHE work is based upon the Jigsaw scheme of work across the school. The scheme combines PSHE education, social skills and spiritual development. Six core themes are addressed over each year with supportive whole school assemblies. The children are encouraged to develop a greater sense of themselves and how they relate to others in the wider world. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural curriculum areas are embedded across the year.

Our active school council represent the children across the school enabling the children to develop a sense of democracy. Sex education is taught throughout the year groups as part of the jigsaw scheme. This year we have a visit planned for the Life Education Van to support this area of the curriculum.

Art & Design

Art is an important subject to enable children to develop, and express their creativity and imagination. Across the school, children learn to express themselves using a variety of art media, focusing on aspects such as tone, form, pattern and texture. They are taught about artists and allowed to develop an individual creative style using a wide range of materials. In key stage 1 and 2, children record their observations in sketch books and develop ideas to support their topic work.

DT

Design and technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. They acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. Pupils learn how to take risks, becoming resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable citizens. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world. At Robert Le Kyng, cooking is planned across the year with relevant links made to topic work.

Music

Musical work, supported by the Charanga online scheme of work, enables the children to develop their ability to perform, appraise and enjoy a wide range of music. Children learn to sing as part of our year group performances and also learn a variety of traditional and modern songs during key stage singing assemblies and classroom activities. Music can be a great learning tool in all subjects!

Children also have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular clubs such as choir and drumming workshops. All children have the chance to perform to the rest of the school and to parents in performances, assemblies and the annual singing festivals organised by the Swindon Music Services held at the Oasis.

Children have the opportunity to learn the guitar in small groups through the Swindon Music Cooperative and those in year 4 all learn the trumpet or trombone as part of whole class teaching using the First Access scheme run by Swindon Music Services.

Modern Foreign Languages - French

Here at Robert Le Kyng, French is taught across KS2. There is a strong focus on listening and speaking with repetition of key words and phrases through speech, games, songs and other activities. Towards the end of KS2 most children will read and write simple phrases. Across KS2, children are supported by a specialist French teacher in a rolling programme over the year.

Outdoor Learning

We are very fortunate to have such a large safe, secure outdoor area at RLK. We use this for Forest Schools with our KS1 children and have the Year 5 camp out too. In addition, we also go out of school to further the children's' outdoor learning; Year 6 visit Braeside Outdoor Learning Centre for a day visit and later on a three day residential. They also climb the Sugar Loaf Mountain in Wales. Year 5 do sailing as well as their camp out, Year 4 have a two day residential at Legge House amongst the woods and Year 3 go to the local forests to take part in historical battles. With our Reception children always in their wellies in their outdoor area, you can see RLK are a school who like getting muddy outside!