

Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School



Curriculum Intent

At Barkisland Primary School, we provide our children with a broad and balanced curriculum which equips them to be effective world citizens of the 21st century. We realise that knowledge and skills are intrinsically linked, therefore, our curriculum is designed to recognise children's prior learning and experiences, building upon these to provide a multitude of opportunities to:

- Develop interpersonal skills
- Build resilience
- Become creative and critical thinkers
- Celebrate diversity
- Be successful and make progress
- Be inspired
- Be challenged
- Keep safe

Practising skills and retrieving knowledge to further learning will feature heavily throughout the curriculum.

Developing Interpersonal Skills

At Barkisland Primary School we believe that interpersonal skills are the cornerstones of effective learning and success. With these skills, our pupils will be able to interact successfully with others in a variety of ways and in different situations.

Interpersonal skills consist of:

- Verbal communication
- Non-verbal communication
- Listening
- Negotiating
- Problem solving
- Empathy
- Decision making
- Assertiveness
- Emotional intelligence

Building Resilience

'Resilience is the ability to cope or "bounce back" after difficult situations, challenges or adversity and return to almost the same level of emotional well-being. It is also the capacity to respond adaptively to difficult circumstances and still thrive.' (Johnson 2008)

At Barkisland Primary School, we encourage the development of children's resilience by creating opportunities which may take a pupil out of their comfort zone, but within a safe and secure environment.

This will support our pupils for challenges they face in the future, whether at school or out of school, where they will be able to tackle these challenges with increased confidence, the willingness to take healthy risks and with sustained perseverance.

Expectations of our pupils and of the school are high. Building resilience encourages our community to realise their potential without giving up, so that they are able to attain at the highest levels possible.

Become Creative and Critical Thinkers

Encouraging creativity and curiosity creates an environment where children are valued as individuals and take responsibility for their own learning and development. This breeds confident and active learners.

At Barkisland Primary School, we foster an environment where children can rigorously question ideas and assumptions rather than accepting them at face value.

Celebrating Diversity

We acknowledge that the community which Barkisland serves is a fairly homogenous one, therefore it is critical we equip our pupils with the skills, knowledge, open-mindedness, compassion and acceptance for life beyond Barkisland Primary School and in Modern Britain.

Uniqueness will be celebrated at all levels and will include the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economics, status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs or other ideologies.

Diversity is about recognising and respecting these differences to create an all-inclusive atmosphere to support our community to thrive together and be proud of who they are.

Be Successful and Make Progress

Being successful is a self-manifesting process; once a pupil has the euphoric feeling of achieving a personal goal, the desire to be successful will drive future success. We celebrate and recognise success and progress at varying levels, e.g. personal, academic, physical, artistic and creative.

Our curriculum will prepare our pupils for their next stage of learning and develop a sense of personal pride.

Be Inspired

As educators, we appreciate the impact we can have on our pupils. At Barkisland Primary School we believe that everyone should be inspired to reach any goal. This is borne through our values: aspire and dare to dream. Our role is to be positive encouragers, to capture pupils' imagination, interests and aspirations so that there is no ceiling on what pupils are able to achieve, irrespective of their starting points.

Be Challenged

All pupils at Barkisland Primary School will be provided with opportunities to tackle aspects of their learning (not just academic) which pose a challenge. They will be supported to approach these challenges

with determination and perseverance. Pupils will encounter challenges in all aspects of the curriculum and within the development of their personal skills so that they are able to achieve all that they are capable of.

Keep Safe

At Barkisland Primary School, we offer all our children the knowledge and understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. Our curriculum encompasses the opportunities to explore physical and mental well-being, personal hygiene, keeping safe in and out of school, keeping safe online and the effects of prolonged screen exposure to support them long-term.

The children who attend Barkisland Primary School, are typically exposed to a variety of technology from an early age. Our role is to teach the children how to manage this exposure, use technology appropriately, responsibly and sensibly within a fast developing digital world.

If our curriculum is realised to its full potential, then our pupils will leave Barkisland Primary School with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.