



The Griffin Federation
Learning Together for Excellence

Gedney Drove End, Holbeach St Marks & Sutton Bridge Westmere Primary Schools

~ Executive Headteacher - Miss Karyn Wiles ~

Curriculum Policy **October 2016**

At our Schools, we provide an exciting creative curriculum based around the Cornerstones Curriculum.

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 will be delivered through Imaginative Learning Projects (ILPs) which will 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 will provide lots of learning challenges throughout the academic year that will require 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 stages of learning in each ILP – Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express.

Engage

At the 'Engage' stage, children will:

- 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 will:

- improve their knowledge and understanding of the topic
- develop and practice 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 learning

How it works

Children will progress through four stages 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:

In delivering the Curriculum, we realise that it is essential for each child to experience different methods of learning through the effective use of a range of printed and practical materials including the use of ICT. Some of these learning skills are addressed through a whole class approach/small groups, and individual work. Within the class our children are grouped according to their abilities, with work differentiated to meet all pupils' talents, skills and abilities. Our learning activities are supported by the use of specialist teachers – SEN, EMAS, Teaching Assistants, outside agents and the voluntary involvement of parents.

Children study all subjects in the National Curriculum. These include English, Mathematics, Science, ICT (Information and technology skills), History, Geography, Art, Design Technology, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education combined with Citizenship. Wherever possible, children are encouraged to explore thematic links between curriculum areas.

Signed:

Headteacher

Signed:

Chair of Governors

Date:

Review Date: September 2019