

The Bramley Curriculum



At Bramley we aim to equip pupils to make a positive contribution to society in the future through a rich, broad and engaging curriculum which inspires all pupils to learn through the acquisition of knowledge & skills with the school values of *Compassion, Friendship* and *Respect* at its core.

The curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning, personal growth and development. It includes not only the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, but also the range of learning experiences that we deliver in order for school to be a magical place of learning. We aim for the children to thrive into positive, responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others while developing knowledge and skills, to help pupils become the very best that they can be.

English

We aim for all our pupils to leave Bramley with high standards of language and literacy. We achieve this by developing their grasp of the spoken and written word, and nurturing their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment.

Reading

Reading is a fundamental skill for children to acquire and we are keen to equip children with the skills to be independent readers as soon as they are able. Reading is taught to every child in some form every day, through both phonics and reading sessions. We aim to foster a love of reading. Phonics and Early reading simply means the stage of reading where children are learning to become fluent readers through the use of phonics. The government has recently introduced some new guidelines regarding the teaching of reading, which means there are some changes to the way that we teach phonics and reading.

We have recently developed our phonics teaching to follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme. We use these resources to teach phonics and reading predominantly from Early Years Foundation Stage through to Year 2, but into Key Stage 2 where needed. Children learn the individual sounds, develop their blending skills, practise reading fluently and with intonation every day. This is also supported with work on word meaning, recognising tricky words which cannot be phonetically decoded and comprehension discussions. The Little Wandle scheme also supports the use of these skills into writing: teaching the children how to apply the sounds when spelling.

Children on the Little Wandle scheme will bring home books each week that match the phonics they are learning at school, helping them to put into practice the skills they have been developing. Books will no longer be organised by colour book bands. Although practising key phonic skills by reading the Little Wandle books is really important, so is reading for pleasure. Sitting and enjoying other books with your child is incredibly valuable.

We are passionate about developing a love of reading at Bramley. As well as our main school library, we have our Early Years reading zone and classroom reading corners where we have a large collection of books which are varied in type and level. Children are also given the opportunity each week to borrow books from our school library to share at home with their family.



Reading is an essential element of all learning, we ask that children read at home as often as possible with a parent or carer, either listening to stories being read to them or reading to adults will support their reading in school. We also welcome volunteer readers into school to listen to the children read for additional practise.

Writing

The Bramley writing experience drives the growth of the Bramley learner. Whether it be to communicate meaning or entertain, the Bramley Author adapts their style in order to effectively meet the given purpose. Through the immersion in rich texts and topics, the children are inspired to write for a range of styles and outcomes.

The Bramley Author is passionate about using ambitious language to grip their audience, make their purpose clear and evoke emotions in their reader.

Throughout their journey, the children are taught a range of grammatical skills to develop the sophistication of their writing and to make their meaning clear. A range of support strategies are in place to allow them to develop their language and creativity, and then organise them confidently and clearly on the page.



Mathematics

Confidence, fluency and understanding in mathematics are essential throughout life and developing them is a priority. Through our mathematics curriculum we aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop a positive attitude to mathematics.
- Demonstrate mastery of mathematical concepts and are able to apply their learning in a range of contexts.
- Become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, to reason mathematically and can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety contexts.
- Acquire the necessary skills to become competent, creative and efficient users of Mathematics to prepare them for secondary school and to enable them to become successful in their lives.
- Use the language of mathematics to talk and write about maths.



The main areas of mathematics we teach are:

- Number and Place Value
- Calculation (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division)
- Measures (length, weight, capacity and time)
- Geometry (shape, position and direction)
- Statistics

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, mathematics is taught through songs, rhymes, stories and practical activities. Over-learning is used to help the children become fluent in basic number concepts, manipulating low numbers with ease and confidence to then be applied later on.

In Years 1 - 6 mathematics is taught daily. Children are supported using a wide range of resources and we aim to foster a positive attitude towards mathematics and to develop each child's knowledge and understanding through challenging, rich and enjoyable tasks.

Science

At Bramley, we are fascinated and curious about the world around us. We believe that everybody here is a scientist, and provide fun and meaningful opportunities for all our learners to explore. The Bramley Scientist will ask questions and try to link their growing knowledge to their everyday lives. Scientists will work in a safe, organised manner to test their ideas and use their scientific knowledge to explain their findings. We discover more about how the universe works by observing, recording, testing, reporting, predicting and evaluating in practical and engaging ways. We believe it is better to discover together, so our science curriculum emphasises notions of collaboration and teamwork in order to investigate deeper and deeper.



Geography

The Geography curriculum will actively support the growth of the Bramley Learner whilst ensuring children gain a comprehensive understanding of key concepts such as locational knowledge, cultural differences and the Earth's key physical processes.

The Bramley Geographer will endeavour to pose questions and create own lines of enquiry in order to develop their understanding of the world and the people in it. They will gain a passion to explore the earth, embracing the variety of its features and the life that thrives there in a respectful and tolerant manner.



History

The History curriculum ensures children use their enquiry skills to gain a comprehensive understanding of key concepts such as chronology, the validity of evidence and how the past has shaped present day.

The Bramley Historian will understand how the past has influenced the present, be curious and pose questions about historical events and use their enquiry skills to develop their historical understanding. They will build on their chronological understanding to recognise when different eras and key events occurred, use evidence to shape their predictions and hypothesise about the past.



Art and Design

The Art curriculum will run alongside the development of the Bramley Learner. Children will be given opportunities to develop their skills and be creative with different media, be exposed to a range of art and artists from past and present and become confident in their skills as they reflect on their work.

The Bramley Artist will express opinions about a range of artists and be able to talk passionately about their work, apply a range of skills and techniques when creating a variety of pieces of art, use their knowledge to reflect on their work and identify how it can be improved and be influenced by their favourite artists and explain how it inspires their own artwork.

Design and Technology

The Design Technology curriculum will actively support the growth of the Bramley Learner whilst ensuring children use creativity and imagination to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems. We strive to equip pupils with the skills and knowledge to go on and become the next generation of creative practitioners.

Through DT, children will be confident to take ownership of their work, be creative and imaginative to design and make products that solve real problems, select and use appropriate tools safely and effectively and consider the effectiveness of their designs and requirements of the product.

Music

The Bramley music curriculum will encourage children to gain confidence to explore and express themselves through a creative medium that acts as a universal language.

Children will have opportunities to develop a comprehensive understanding of how music is developed and composed to create a cohesion and sense of belonging and togetherness. In addition to singing and practical creative music making, using a wide range of instruments, our children enjoy many other valuable experiences, including opportunities to perform to an audience. As well as the learning of music within the curriculum, there is a range of opportunities to experience specialist teaching through external providers including violin, piano, guitar and Rock Steady in addition to extra-curricular clubs such as choir and orchestra.

P.E and School Sport

The P.E curriculum aims to support and encourage the Bramley Athlete to understand the importance of keeping fit and how this enables us to remain healthy. Children will have opportunities to engage in a variety of physical activities, broadening their view of what exercise entails. Our curriculum focuses on engaging children in being active and enjoying physical exercise. We set challenging expectations, whilst allowing all children to achieve success through fun group games - we aim to develop positive attitudes towards team games, encouraging others and developing our own 'personal best'.

Bramley Athlete's will also be exposed to the thrill of competitive sport through House Cup events and in Upper School will look at key skills and rules of different sports.

As well as the PE curriculum, we offer a wide range of extra-curricular sports, many of which include the opportunity to represent the school in competitive fixtures.



Computing

The Computing curriculum at Bramley ensures children inherit a comprehensive understanding of the key curriculum concepts of computational thinking, digital literacy and safe technological use. The Bramley Digital Citizen will be able to approach technology confidently and be able to assess and use it productively and purposefully to create and participate in the global digital landscape. They will learn the principles of computer science in which they will understand how computers

work and the foundation of computational thinking and how this can be used effectively through programming. We aim for our children to be digitally literate, meaning they will be able to use technology to express themselves, develop their ideas and create content for other users. In addition, the children will be safe users of technology while also being aware of the steps to take when presented with unsafe situations, they will be an active and respectful participant in the current and future digital world.



PSHE/RHE

Personal, Social and Health Education (P.S.H.E) comprises all aspects of our school's planned provision to promote children's personal and social development, including health and well-being. We believe that children will achieve their full potential in an environment, which promotes positive relationships and high self-esteem. Through the HeartSmart curriculum, which combines Relationships and Health Education (RHE) with PSHE, children are supported to explore their thoughts and emotions about wide ranging issues. We encourage children to reflect using our school values and link everything back to the role they play ensuring that they go on to make a positive contribution to the world.

We also hold a range of 'theme' days and weeks throughout the year in order to encourage the children's understanding of cultural groups, diversity and abilities/disabilities. Supporting our children to flourish into accepting citizens of the world.



Religious Education

The RE curriculum will actively develop the Bramley learner into free thinking, critically aware and compassionate members of society through their exploration of Christianity and other faiths and cultures.

The children will pose questions about the impact and affect religions have on their communities in an informed and respectful way, dig deep into the roots of religions and how they have evolved over time, discuss their views on what they have learned and explore the world in the shoes of a range of faiths and cultures.

Children are encouraged to make wise choices and to become aware of their own values. Through opportunities to appreciate different ideas, beliefs and cultures, children are encouraged to develop responsibility, co-operation, self-discipline and tolerance.



Outdoor Learning at Bramley

At Bramley, we place a strong emphasis on taking education outdoors to offer children unusual and fun ways of learning. Outdoor learning provides an alternative way to teach children a diverse range of topics in a non-classroom setting. This allows our teaching staff to incorporate age-appropriate activities, which are linked to their academic development, covering subjects such as maths, science, design and technology, art and biology. Activities include bridge-building, learning about local wildlife, creating art from natural materials, developing sensory skills, fire safety and story-telling and reading.



Our Outdoor environment

At Bramley we are lucky to have beautiful extensive grounds that we are able to use to help the children to learn. We have a large playground, an allotment area (new in 2019), a reflection garden, a large field, an adventure playground and our forest area.

Forest School at Bramley

We are very lucky to have a level 3 qualified Forest School member of staff at Bramley. This enables children from EYFS – Year 6 to have Forest School experiences through the year. These experiences include tree climbing, fire lighting, use of tools, pond dipping, bug hunts and many more fantastic experiences.

