# The Widecombe in the Moor Curriculum



## Our principles and purpose

Widecombe is placed in a unique and beautiful location in the heart of Dartmoor and we value everything that this location offers our children. A sense of **community** is central to our ethos, and we want our children to value and understand their own school community, the surrounding local communities but it is also extremely important to us that they develop a wider sense of what community means globally which opens their eyes to the world beyond where they live.

At Widecombe, we want our curriculum to give frequent and varied opportunities for our children to develop their **personal voice**. We want our children to leave Widecombe as confident, competent individuals who know how to make a positive difference to the people and the world around them. Child voice should be integral to the planning process and they should be given scope to make decisions about their own learning thus engaging them fully in the process.

Through developing positive learning behaviours, our curriculum will enable children to develop high expectations of themselves and to actively explore **possibilities** beyond the familiar. They will leave our school with the life skills needed to succeed, and if they don't always succeed, they will have the resilience and positivity to pick themselves up and try again.

## Our core offer and enrichment

Widecombe in the Moor is a unique and wonderful place to learn and flourish and we want to ensure that all of our pupil's experience everything such a unique place has to offer. We also feel it is essential that our children develop a wider understanding of the world beyond Widecombe and need to experience less rural and more multi-cultural locations as a part of their education.



#### A 5-Star Education:

During their time at Widecombe, all of our children will have the opportunity to:

- see a lamb being born
- bring their pet to school (large and small)
- learn outdoors all children will make and cook and share a meal around an open fire
- travel to a contrasting location and experience travelling on different modes of public transport
- perform in public as speakers, musicians, dancers and sports people

The learning journey at Widecombe will be rich, varied, challenging and exciting and we want to ensure that all of our children have a diverse range of memorable experiences throughout their time with us. These experiences should be fun; develop life skills such as resilience and kindness and should be memorable.

#### Enrichment

#### Whole School enrichment opportunities:

**Curriculum celebration days - end of unit** - parents are invited to join us to celebrate children's learning linked to their project

Topic exhibitions, art exhibition, body language, end of science outcomes etc

Children to lead class assemblies at the end of term to share their learning

#### Sport:

In addition to our sports curriculum children will be able to take part in a variety of sporting activities at a range of locations as part of our ongoing School Sports Partnership programme. All children will have the opportunity to take part in competitive and non-competitive events. Children in Upper Dart will perform in an annual celebration of Dance when they attend Body Language and children in Webburn will perform at the annual dance festival.

#### **Class assemblies**

All children will take part in at least two assemblies a year, celebrating their learning with parents and also having an opportunity to develop their confidence as public speakers.

Individual class enrichment opportunities					
Webburn EYFS and Year 1	Lower Dart Years 2, 3 and 4	Upper Dart Years 5 and 6			
EYFS and Year 1LambingYellow Frog ReptilePaignton ZooTorquay Dinosaur museumJurrasic coast whole school visitVisit a place of worshipMulti-sportsPlant, maintain and harvest from our school garden ~ cook for enjoyment.Forest School LearningPlant a tree in our local community	Years 2, 3 and 4 Build shelters on Dartmoor - DT Heatree- orienteering Sport Relief Mile Tree planting Sports tournaments and festivals	• •			
		Active			

Together with, and underpinning our core offer, we ensure that our curriculum has its roots in basic skills. Our teaching of reading is well established and we have systems in place for ensuring that children secure basic skills at the earliest point possible. We teach early literacy through synthetic phonics, with Letters and Sounds taught alongside, Jolly Phonics and No-nonsense Spelling is used to support skills children need to acquire. Grammar is taught within context in the literacy units based around quality texts.

Our maths teaching is through a mastery approach. In the Early Years children-fluency. The children are exposed to discussions, vocabulary and lots of problem solving activities where they apply their methodology. This ensures children's understanding of new concepts is both secure and challenged.

The core curriculum at Widecombe in the Moor is of a high standard, inclusive and supports our principle and purpose. It focuses on the necessary priorities for ensuring that all pupils make excellent progress in reading, writing and maths. It allows for progress within all groups of children across the school and results in high standards.

## Curriculum Design

Our Early Years curriculum is designed with the Characteristics of Effective Learning and Development matters at its core. Beyond EYFS the curriculum ensures coverage of the statutory requirements of the national curriculum. The school's curriculum builds on pupils' prior learning and develops deep understanding of the material covered, introduces subject content progressively and constantly demands more of pupils embedding reading, writing and communication, and maths where appropriate, across all subjects. We aim to develop pupils who love the challenge of learning, are resilient to failure and are curious to seek out new information to deepen knowledge, understanding and skills. The curriculum was designed with consideration of our unique staff and their varying experiences and skills, our children's passions and interests and the passions of our families who often share their expertise with us. It was built with the Widecombe in the Moor creative sparkle that we all have come to expect. Our two-year programme, redeveloped in 2019/20, was supported by the responses from questionnaires for staff and children and discussion with parents and school council body. Our most successful and

Year	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	
	How to survive in the wild? (Houses and Homes)	Explorers and Exploration	The Olympics 2020	
<u>A</u> 2019 / 20 2023 / 24	History – Stone age to Iron Age Geography – Settlement / locality Fieldwork – Science – Leader to map	Geography – Zones / Biomes / Focus on weather Fieldwork – Weather Data Collection	History – Ancient Greece	
	Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	<b>Science – Leader to map</b> Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	
	Chocolate	What the Romans have done for	Moor to Sea	
<u>B</u> 2020 / 21	History – Non-European (Mayan or Indus) Geography – Fairtrade (trade and economic activity) Fieldwork –	<b>us!</b> History – Romans (Impact on UK)	History – Stone age to Iron Age Geography – Rivers and Settlement (Our locality – Widecombe / Totnes / Dartmouth)	
	Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	Water Cycle Fieldwork – River Study (O Brooke) Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	
	Ancient Worlds History – Ancient Egyptians	Dartmoor / Folk Tales History – Local History Geography – settlement and land use	Tour de France Geography – European locality	
<u>C</u> 2021 / 22	Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	Fieldwork – Our Locality Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	Mountains Fieldwork – Science – Leader to map Art – Outcome DT – Outcome	

Long and medium term planning. This is the long-term rolling programme for all classes at Widecombe:

enjoyable topics were retained with new ideas developed to ensure a broad and balanced approach.

	War and Remembrance	Invaders and Settlers	Changing World
	History – Study of event in World War (1066 to present)	History – Anglo Saxons and Vikings (2)	
D			Geography – Volcanoes and Earthquakes / Climate (Zones)
2022 / 23			Americas Locality
2022 / 25	Science – Leader to map	Science – Leader to map	Science – Leader to map
	Art – Outcome	Art – Outcome	Art – Outcome
	DT – Outcome	DT – Outcome	DT – Outcome

**Medium term planning** is completed by all teachers and involves ensuring coverage of both the national curriculum objectives and the key skills that we want the children to develop. These detail the starting points for all topics, show how it will develop and outline any significant outcomes. These documents use the format below, are entirely for the use of teaching staff, and become a starting point for short-term plans.

Class Name Medium Term Plan				Name of Topic			
Events – Local							
and National							
Driver 1 –	<b>Child voice</b> How will the curriculum promote this?						
Driver 2 –	<b>Possibilities</b> How will the curriculum promote this?						
Driver 3 –	<b>Community</b> How will the curriculum promote this?						
Fortnightly Overview	Weeks 1 & 2	Weeks 3 & 4	Weeks 5 & 6	Weeks 7 & 8	Weeks 9 & 10	Weeks 11 & 12	
Inspire, motivate and momentum	Hook – what event / activity will set the scene for our project		Keeping going – what event / activity will refocus us on our project and maintain the momentum and interest			Celebration – what event / activity will conclude our project and celebrate our learning (Art Gallery for parents, Assembly for parents, Debate, etc)	
Core Text						,	
English							
<b>Reading –</b> inc. Core Texts							
English Writing							
Spelling							
Maths							
History							
Geography							
Science							
Computing							
Art							
DT							
Music							
RE							
PSHE							
PE							
MFL							

Parents are kept well informed about what their children will be learning each term. Termly overviews are sent home to parents at the beginning of each term.

### **Resources**

At Widecombe in the Moor primary the curriculum is brought alive by the range of quality resources used by the staff. 'Hooks'/enquiry days are used to engage and enthuse pupils who inquire and use their curiosity to pose questions and design part of their own learning journey.

The importance of enquiry learning is that pupils learn how to continue learning. This is something they can take with them throughout life -- beyond parental help and security, beyond a textbook, beyond the time of a teacher, beyond school -- to a time when they will often be alone in their learning. A tool for life.

Resources we use may include:

- Vertically grouped themed days
- Local artists
- Developing, growing harvesting and cooking from our school garden
- Forest School outdoor learning,
- Local businesses
- Visits to places of worship
- Visitors with specific skills, event programmes or from different cultural backgrounds,
- Sporting champions,
- Educational visits linked to our topics,
- Parent expertise,
- Museum visits,
- Zoo/wild life centre visits
- Residential centres
- Musicians
- Story tellers

This list is not exhaustive, but is a sample of the many ways we engage and enthuse children, families and staff.

#### **Reviewing and evaluating**

Life at school is never dull; education is constantly changing and evolving in order to meet the needs of the world in which we live, and to prepare the children for the world in which they will live as adults. As a staff we never feel that we have quite finished planning our curriculum as we always want to create an even better product for the children in our care.

With this in mind, we review our curriculum on a 2-year cycle and at the end of each term. Through collecting the views of our school council, pupils, parent forums and staff discussion we review its current impact and aim to continue to personalise our curriculum for Ilsington, making the most of our children, families, community and environment.

We review and evaluate our curriculum /2-year rolling programme; strategically planning our 5 Star Core offer and enrichment activities to ensure high levels of interest, enthusiasm, challenge and motivation. We will ensure

- Each topic is enrichment led share ideas, develop what is in place now.
- Enrichment activities will underpin each block of learning
- Make community links for events and people where possible
- Ensure our pupils voice impacts on school curriculum
- Design with our pupils in mind, to support them and to build on their skill and knowledge set.
- Extended better use of outdoor learning
- Key vocabulary is clearly identified to enable best outcomes

• We continue developing our curriculum, taking into account Ofsted curriculum training: Intent, Implementation and Impact.

Throughout our curriculum design process, our principles and values stand strong. Via our enriched and broadly balanced curriculum we offer every child the opportunity to be all that they can be.