



### The Three Is of the Curriculum

This letter aims to give you more insight in the curriculum that we are proud to offer at our school. The 'Three Is' of the Curriculum are:

**INTENT**—What we teach and why with regards to the community we serve.

**IMPLEMENTATION**—How we teach our curriculum and the different subjects within it.

**IMPACT**—How we measure how effectively we have delivered on our intent. This area includes assessments—both national and internal.

### What is the INTENT of our curriculum?

At Willow Lane we have used the Primary National Curriculum as a starting point and from it created our own curriculum. It's a ½ termly topic based approach which celebrates and gives different subject areas emphasis over the year. It allows teachers to tailor the delivery to the needs of an individual class and it promotes cross curricular teaching – a more effective approach for our children than subject by subject – in particular through the use of effective books and stories.



Every child is recognised as a unique individual and we believe in the power of education to transform lives. Learning within our curriculum is underpinned by the teaching of knowledge, skills, concepts and values and learning progresses year on year, subject by subject. Our curriculum puts an emphasis on vocabulary, life experiences, aspirations and insights to life beyond the local area. Our curriculum puts an emphasis on experiential learning and enhancement opportunities to build positive attitudes and engage children with lifelong learning because that is the need for many in the community we serve.

And our topics aim to inspire and generate aspirations with careers, university visits, relevant, local learning and participation in community events, highlights along children's journeys. They leave with a positive attitude towards school, a passion for vocabulary and reading and fond memories of experiences, trips and learning upon which they can layer further knowledge and skills.

## Willow Lane Curriculum



### What content does the curriculum cover at our school?

As a Local Authority Community School, we deliver the Primary National Curriculum (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-primary-curriculum>) in a way that is best for our children. Some of the curriculum is taught in units planned explicitly by teachers whilst we also use schemes of work—including 'Maths No Problem' and 'Letters and Sounds'—to deliver mathematics and phonics. Alongside the National Curriculum, we teach the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus for RE. These form the foundations of our curriculum but there is far more to it than that. Through Values Education and Kidsafe sessions we provide children with a bedrock of strong morals no matter where in the world education takes them.



### Where do I find out about the curriculum?

On the school website there is an overview of the curriculum as well as specific pages linked to learning in each year group. Each term this will give you an insight (shared through class newsletters) into the topic and how it will be taught. Furthermore, there are pdfs to show you what is expected from your child in English and Mathematics. The school blog also offers insights in to both what we teach and how we teach it.

### What is the Passport?

This is a list of activities we believe every child should experience in their time at our school—the sort of experiences which one remembers for life. Each is underpinned by National Curriculum objectives and the activities have been chosen by children, staff, parents and governors.

### How do we IMPLEMENT our curriculum?

Aristotle said ‘Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all’ and at Willow Lane we take this idea and ‘Teach to the Heart’. Our Golden Rule is ‘Love School, Love Learning’ and we know that our children need to not only be provided with knowledge and skills but also positive attitudes and role models who will plant and foster the seeds of ambition. Experiential learning is key to engaging all our children and experiences not only develop interest and enjoyment but provide the context and vocabulary which underpins successful learning.

Whilst all subjects have this underlying ethos, a visit to any classroom will identify different approaches for different lessons. History often uses drama and artifacts, English uses rich texts to inspire and engage, Computing sees children on iPads learning to code and stay safe online, Geography sees mapwork from those made with twigs and leaves up to OS grid references, Music involves instruments—both real and digital, PE sees children learning fundamental skills as well as specific sports, MFL includes European Languages to start and then four years of Mandarin, RE uses artifacts and visits to places of worship, Forest Schools develops soft skills vital to success in life and Science lessons are hands on and investigative. More detailed insights can be found in our Teaching, Learning and Assessment Policy on the website.



### How do we measure the IMPACT?

Assessment is part of good teaching practice and our teachers assess daily to see what children have learnt and what they need to learn next. This allows learning to build upon prior learning. Our subject leaders monitor the impact of their subject areas and an overview of assessment across the curriculum is feedback in School Reports. Our children participate in National Summative Assessments—Early Learning Goals, Phonics Screening, Key Stage 1 Teacher Assessments and Key Stage 2 SATs and these are administered both sensitively and professionally in line with DfE guidance.

*You can keep up-to-date with dates, day to day learning and curriculum letters on our website:  
[www.willow.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.willow.lancs.sch.uk)*