



The aims of Micklefield School emphasise the importance of a balanced and enriched Curriculum:

- to provide an appropriate and challenging Curriculum to promote learning, personal development and independent learning.
- to support the growth, development and needs of the whole person.
- to strive for quality and excellence and to help pupils achieve high academic standards

The Curriculum and Co-Curriculum at Micklefield promote and follow the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) 2010, (Amendment) Regulations 2014.

The Curriculum Policy 2017-2018 document is produced and referenced to the school's policy documents relating to:

- Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Policy
- Able, Gifted and Talented Policy
- Policy for pupils for whom English is an Additional Language

The Curriculum Policy works in conjunction with the school Reporting, Tracking and Monitoring Policy 2017-2018.

It is the responsibility of each individual member of staff to manage individual pupil's progress and to support subject coordinators and to inform whole school tracking, monitoring and assessment protocols at Micklefield.

The Curriculum aims to:

- prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of senior school and promote a lifelong love of learning
- be inclusive by providing opportunities for all pupils to develop their skills and knowledge and to realise their potential
- provide a framework that serves the needs of teaching and learning
- promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils
- actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
- ensure that principles are actively promoted which:
 - (i) enable children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self confidence
 - (ii) enable pupils to distinguish right and wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
 - (iii) encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely

- (iv) enable pupils to acquire a broad knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
- (v) promote further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures
- (vi) encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010
- encourage the personal mental and physical development of pupils
- identify and develop transferrable skills for the 21st Century
- cater for the individual needs and interests of the pupils.

The broad academic Curriculum at Micklefield is supported by extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, which aims to give pupils of compulsory school age experience in the following areas: -

- Linguistic
- Mathematical
- Scientific
- Technological
- Human and social
- Physical
- Aesthetic and creative education

To achieve these aims the Curriculum is:

- **broad** to ensure that each pupil is able to develop a wide range of skills and understanding
- **balanced** to ensure that each element of the Curriculum is given appropriate emphasis to achieve the above aims and promote a lifelong love of learning
- ensures that pupils are able to **access** the full range of higher education courses, institutions and career pathways
- **personalised** to ensure that the individual needs of each pupil are met through the provision of appropriate choice, pace, challenge and support at all levels
- **stimulating** to promote independent and lifelong learning
- **progressive** to build upon prior knowledge and experience through the introduction of appropriate challenge at all levels
- allows the development of **transferrable skills** and cross-curricular understanding
- designed to be free of gender stereotypes

The Curriculum is reviewed each year under the guidance of the Director of Studies to ensure that it matches the needs of all pupils irrespective of ability, learning difficulty, language acquisition and ethnicity.

At the same time, the Curriculum provides a framework within which teachers are free to and encouraged to, work creatively. All pupils must have the opportunity to learn and make progress and acquire skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy.

The PSHE Programme enhances the Curriculum in all years.

The Curriculum throughout the school is supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work.

The Curriculum at Micklefield should provide all pupils with the opportunities to develop the skills and character attributes associated with independence and resilience.

Organisation and planning

We plan our Curriculum in three phases. We agree a long-term plan for each key stage. This indicates what topics are to be taught in each term, and to which groups of children. We review our long-term plan on an annual basis.

With our medium-term plans, we give clear guidance on the objectives and teaching strategies that we use when teaching each topic. As we have adopted the National Literacy and Numeracy Strategies for our school, we take our medium-term planning directly from the guidance documents. We use the national schemes of work for much of our medium-term planning in the foundation subjects.

Our short-term plans are those that our teachers write on a weekly or daily basis. Weekly plans are sent to the Headmistress each Monday.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage and at Key Stage 1 we adopt an inter-disciplinary topic approach to Curriculum planning. We plan the Curriculum carefully, so that there is coherence and full coverage of all aspects of the National Curriculum and Early Learning Goals, and there is planned progression in all Curriculum areas.

The Curriculum that we teach in the Reception class meets the requirements set out in the revised National Curriculum at Foundation Stage. Our Curriculum planning focuses on the seven Early Learning Goals and on developing children's skills and experiences.

Our school fully supports the principle that young children learn through play, and by engaging in well-planned structured activities.

During the children's first term in the Reception class, their teacher makes a baseline assessment to record the skills of each child on entry to the school. This assessment forms an important part of the future Curriculum planning for each child.

We are well aware that all children need the support of parents and teachers to make good progress in school. We strive to build positive links with the parents of each child by keeping them informed about the way in which the children are being taught and how well each child is progressing.

At Key Stage 2 the Curriculum at our school places a greater emphasis on the core and foundation subjects than it does at Key Stage 1, and we teach these subjects separately.

Children with specific learning difficulties or Education Healthcare Plans (see Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Policy)

The Curriculum in our school is designed to provide access and opportunity for all children who attend the school. If we think it necessary to adapt the Curriculum to meet the needs of individual children, then we do so in consultation with the parents of the child.

We comply with the requirements set out in the SEN Code of Practice in providing for children with special needs. If a child displays signs of having special needs, his/her teacher makes an assessment of this need. In most instances the teacher is able to provide resources and educational opportunities which meet the child's needs within the normal class organisation. If a child's need is more severe, we refer to our Skills Unit where further interventions and support can be given. In considering the child for an education Healthcare Plan, we would involve the appropriate external agencies. We strive to provide additional resources and support for children with special needs.

The school provides an EHCP (Education Healthcare Plan) for the children who attend the Skills Unit and for any who might be on the special needs register. This sets out the nature of the special need, and outlines how the school will aim to address the need. It also sets out targets for improvement, so that we can review and monitor the progress of each child at regular intervals.

Monitoring and Review

The Education and Staffing Committee is responsible for monitoring the way that the school Curriculum is implemented.

The Headmistress is responsible for the day to day organisation of the Curriculum. The Headmistress monitors the weekly lesson planning for all staff, ensuring that classes are taught the full requirements of the National Curriculum, and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives.

In conjunction with the Director of Studies, work is sampled and teaching and assessment strategies form part of the weekly CPD sessions for all teaching staff. Staff conduct paired observations and subject coordinators lead CPD sessions to highlight good practice and any forthcoming Curriculum changes.

The Curriculum Policy is reviewed annually by the Head and the Director of Studies.

Mrs Lyn Rose
Headmistress

Mrs F Yarde
Director of Studies

Reviewed: September 2017
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