

What will my child learn in Year 1?

This is a summary of what the children will be learning this year. A full explanation of skills, knowledge and vocabulary can be found on the curriculum pages.



Science

The Human Body

Children will identify and name body parts and learn about the senses.

Seasonal Changes

Children will learn about the four seasons and the weather associated with each; how seasonal changes affect trees, daylight hours and clothing choices.

Materials

Children will compare and group materials based on how they look and feel and carry out tests to sort materials based on observable properties.

Animals

Children will learn how to compare and group animals based on similarities and differences in their characteristics, physical features and diets.

Caring for the planet

Children will learn why it is important to care for our planet and explore ways they can help to look after it.

Plants

Venturing outside, children identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. They use magnifying glasses to observe and name plant parts and sort leaves into groups based on appearance.

Growing and cooking

Children will explore where their food comes from, identify the plants they have grown this year, and consider meals they can make using a variety of fruits and vegetables.

History

How am I making History?

Children will look at personal chronology and find out about the past within living memory by examining photographs and asking questions.

How have toys changed?

Sequencing toys into a physical timeline, children investigate artefacts from the past and begin to pose questions. They learn how teddy bears have changed and 'interview' an old teddy bear before considering what toys may be like in the future.

How have the explorers changed the world?

Children learn about events and people beyond living memory. They learn about explorers such as Christopher Columbus, Mary Kingsley and Matthew Henson and what makes them significant.

Computing

Children develop fundamental computing skills by using computers, creating digital content, learning about data and beginning to understand programming through simple algorithms and coding.

Computing systems: Using computers 1

Children develop basic computer skills, including using a mouse, keyboard and simple software.

Programming 1: Commands unplugged

Children learn how instructions and algorithms can be used without a computer.

Creating media: Digital designers 1

Children create simple digital content using technology.

Programming 2: Bee-Bots

Children use Bee-Bots to create, test and debug simple programs.

Creating media: Digital designers 2

Children use digital tools to design and improve their own creations.

Data handling: Introduction to data

Children collect, organise and interpret simple data.

Geography

What is it like here?

Children explore where they live on an aerial photograph and recognise features within a local context. They create maps of the school grounds and follow simple routes around the school grounds and carry out an enquiry as to how their playground can be improved.

What is the weather like in the UK?

Looking at the countries and cities that make up the UK, children will keep a daily weather record and find out more about hot and cold places in the UK.

What is it like to live in Shanghai?

Using a world map children will learn about continents, oceans and countries outside the UK with a focus on China. Children identify physical features of Shanghai using aerial photographs and maps before identifying human features, through exploring land-use. They compare the human and physical features of Shanghai to features in the local area and make a simple map using data collected through fieldwork.

Children also learn Music and access weekly PE and PSHE sessions. Daily Literacy and Maths lessons support children to reach their curriculum end goals.

Each child has a **Homework Diary** which contains lots of useful links, information and passwords for different websites. Please use the diary to record their reading and non-urgent notes to school.



Art

Drawing: Make your mark

Children use different line types and mark-making techniques in drawing; enhancing children's ability to describe lines, control drawing materials like pencils and chalk, and experiment with various media, while responding to music.

Painting and mixed media: Colour splash

Children learn about primary and secondary colours, colour mixing techniques, and apply these skills in painting and printing.

Sculpture and 3D: Paper play

This unit introduces pupils to paper-based 3D art forms, focusing on techniques like rolling paper tubes, shaping paper strips, and constructing imaginative sculptures. Children develop skills in creating 3D structures and applying painting skills in three-dimensional art, enhancing their understanding of form and construction.

Craft and design: Woven wonders

Children express opinions about art, use creative techniques like wool wrapping and weaving, and understand the work of artists like Cecilia Vicuña.

RE

This year children begin exploring beliefs about God, creation, belonging and caring for others through stories, symbols and religious practices. They compare different viewpoints and develop an understanding of how beliefs influence actions and values.

How did the world begin?

Children compare creation stories and scientific explanations about the origins of the world.

What do some people believe God looks like?

Children explore different representations and understandings of God across religions and worldviews.

What is God's job?

Children investigate different beliefs about God's role and influence in the world.

Why should we care for the world?

Children explore why many people believe humans have a responsibility to care for the planet.

How do we know that new babies are special?

Children learn about ceremonies and traditions used to welcome new babies into communities.

Why should we care for others?

Children investigate how beliefs and values encourage people to show kindness and compassion.

Design & Technology

Structures: Stable structures

Children will design and construct a pencil pot for a chosen user, investigating how base width and added weight affect the stability of their structure.

Mechanisms: Wheels and axles

Children learn about the key parts of a wheeled vehicle, to develop an understanding of how wheels, axles and axle holders work and design and make a moving vehicle.

Mechanisms: Matching slider game

Children explore slider mechanisms and the movement they output to design, make and evaluate a moving slider game from a range of templates.

Cooking and Nutrition: Smoothies

Children develop their food preparation skills and taste different ingredients to make choices for their smoothies.

Textiles: Simple stitches

Children will explore how fabrics are made and used, learning to thread a needle and begin making stitches before sketching and stitching a design for a piece of bunting onto fabric.

Enrichment

All topics will be enriched with trips and visits e.g The History Man, Theatre Trips