



Intent

The Gem Federation curriculum is designed to provide a broad and balanced education that meets the needs of all our children.

It provides opportunities for children to develop as independent, confident and successful learners, with high aspirations and an understanding of what it means to be a global citizen. Our curriculum ensures that academic success runs parallel with creativity, problem solving, responsibility, respect, resilience, physical development and well-being, as key elements that support the development of the whole child and promotes a positive attitude towards learning.

Our curriculum celebrates diversity and utilises the skills, knowledge and cultural wealth of the community while supporting the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, to ensure our children are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

Implementation

Our school curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum in addition to other experiences and opportunities that best meet the learning and developmental needs of all our children.

A creative curriculum approach has been implemented across the schools to ensure lessons taught are exciting and engaging. Subjects have been carefully planned and mapped out to ensure coverage and progression is made in all curriculum areas. Each year, we build upon the children's learning from the previous year, utilising opportunities to broaden their knowledge, make connections and develop the skills needed to become critical thinkers.

This creative approach allows for topic-based learning, fostering our children's curiosity and interest in topics that are diverse, inclusive and vocabulary rich, which in turn enables the achievement of depth in knowledge and skills. Opportunities to learn about a variety of significant figures are planned for to ensure all children are represented and aspire to achieve.

The curriculum provides our children with memorable experiences and exciting opportunities from which they can learn and develop a range of transferable skills. The children's own community, its heritage and traditions are referred to within lessons to engage interest.

Contributing to the federation's broad and balanced curriculum, both the outdoor environment and local community are considered to be great opportunities for active learning. We are committed to ensuring that all learners have access to good quality educational experiences beyond the classroom walls, with engaging learning opportunities integrated into the curriculum.

The Arts have a high profile in our schools with every child receiving lessons from a specialist music teacher on a weekly basis. Each school has a samba band, with opportunities for performances planned for within the school and beyond it. The Gem Federation also utilises the skills of a wide range of professionals; throughout their time at the school, children will work with specialist coaches for PE lessons, and a range of visual artists and actors.

A varied timetable of extra-curricular activities is offered by the schools through clubs, such as Forest School, fencing, boxing or choir, each supporting the core curriculum whilst developing a variety of specialist skills. A primary focus of our curriculum is to raise aspirations, engender a sense of personal pride in achievement, and provide a purpose and relevance for learning.

Our schools take pride in providing a highly inclusive environment, ensuring all children enjoy their education and are given the opportunity to progress and reach their full potential. Those who are most able are challenged and supported through tasks that provide opportunities for greater depth learning and those who struggle are encouraged and given targeted support to embed skills: to develop at their own pace or simply to learn in a style that best suits their individual needs.

Subject leaders play an important part in the success of the curriculum by leading a regular programme of monitoring, evaluation and review, with the celebration of good practice contributing to our ongoing commitment to evolve and improve further. All subject leaders are given training and the opportunity to keep developing their own subject knowledge, skills and understanding, so they can support curriculum development and their colleagues throughout the school.

Impact

The innovative practice across the Federation provides a strong foundation for our children, both academically and personally. Our children are given the opportunity to collaborate and develop social skills, to think critically and creatively, to work independently and become resilient.

Our curriculum ensures the needs of the individual as well as the group can be met through high quality first wave teaching, supported by targeted, proven interventions where appropriate.

Enjoyment of the curriculum promotes achievement, confidence and good behaviour. Children feel safe to try new things. High quality visits and visitors to the school enhance the curriculum and provide opportunities for writing for a purpose.

Children have opportunities to share their learning with each other, their parents and carers and other learners through exhibitions, performances, competitions and events involving other schools. Developing their independence and motivation as learners and their sense of responsibility as future citizens is at the heart of all our teaching and learning.