



Moorside Primary School, Lancaster

National Curriculum 2023 – 2024

Our inspiring curriculum covers all the requirements of the National Curriculum in coherent and stimulating topic units summarised in the table below. Subject areas are linked and learning is set in context, giving children the best opportunities to embed their learning.

Below is a summary of our topic names. More detail is given in separate documents showing curriculum coverage and progression for each subject and more detailed coverage for each year group.

	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Reception	I wonder who it is ...	I wonder what is out there ...	I wonder who lives there ...	I wonder how things grow ...	I wonder how things change ...	I wonder how people help us ...
Year 1	The Earth	Seasonal Change	Castles	Animals	Explorers	Growing
Year 2	Coasts	People in the Past	China	Construction	Plants and Habitats	
Year 3	Birds	Stone Age	Ancient Civilizations		World Food	Underground
Year 4	British Invaders and Settlers		Engineering	Lancaster City Study	Forests and Rainforests	
Year 5	Space	Vikings	Water		20 th Century	
Year 6	World War I		Survival		Human Body	

Organisation of Subjects

The main topic themes are based on science, history and geography. We are currently re-developing the way that science is taught so that where the main topic theme is not explicitly scientific, science teaching continues on a regular basis to ensure that key content, knowledge and skills are deeply embedded and retained.

Art, Music and Design/Technology are integrated into the topics and meaningful links are made. For example, in our topic about the human body, in art children would explore how the body has been portrayed by different artists.

In addition to our topic work, some subjects are taught discretely; these include RE, PHSE, PE, French and Computing (including Online Safety) and Kidsafe which teaches children about how to keep themselves safe. More detail is provided about how we cover these areas in other parts of our website. Assemblies promote our school values and develop a sense of community.

Through our assemblies, we look at values which link to our main PSHE themes. Where appropriate individual year groups explore values if they link to their topic.

Additional Opportunities

High quality activities and experiences inspire creativity and learning, enhanced by our wide range of visits and visitors to school. Technology is used effectively to support all aspects of the curriculum and we offer a wide range of musical instrument tuition as part of our curriculum. Our specialist Spanish teacher delivers a high-quality language programme to all children in Key Stage 2 and further opportunities to develop the language are regularly built into the curriculum. Our sports teams cater for children of all abilities and interests. They range from having fun and trying a new sport to playing at a high level, performing successfully at school, city, county and national level.

Approach to Learning

At Moorside, we focus on positive learning attitudes and skills, enabling children to develop the lifelong skills to be effective learners. Opportunities to develop resilience, resourcefulness, risk-taking, responsibility and to build relationships underpin all our work in school, equipping children with the skills they need for

the rest of their lives. Effective questioning and enquiry-based learning promote curiosity and develop children's critical thinking skills. Our teaching styles encourage discussion, questioning, role-play, debate and collaborative learning, enabling our children to become articulate and confident young people.

Learning beyond the classroom is a key feature of our curriculum. Our woodlands, meadow, wild area, greenhouse and planting beds are in constant use to enhance learning opportunities across the school. From digging, building and exploring to bush-craft, camp-fire cookery, geocaching and survival skills, the range of outdoor learning opportunities at Moorside is unparalleled.

Educational Visits

We believe in giving children a wealth of first hand experiences beyond the classroom. Further opportunities for learning enhancement are offered to all of our children through a wide range of educational visits to support their topic work. Whether it is visiting a local farm or exploring new technology, all our visits are designed to offer unique experiences that make learning real. All the children in school are also offered a range of residential visits to develop their learning and personal development further afield:

- Bringing history alive, our Year 5 residential visit to York gives children first-hand experiences as archaeologists as they unearth our Viking heritage.
- Year 4 conclude their Forests topic with an overnight adventure to Grizedale Forest, camping out in the middle of the forest and refining their geographical skills – mapwork, navigation and route-planning. A visit to GoApe! gives children the chance to see the forest from a completely different perspective.
- Outdoor learning is built into all our topic units and culminates with a week-long adventure spent exploring the lakes and mountains of the northern Lake District. The visit includes sailing, kayaking, abseiling, canoeing, ghyll scrambling, climbing, hiking and mountain biking, with all the activities taking place in and around Derwentwater, Whinlatter and the mountains surrounding Keswick.