

# Our Curriculum

We have always ensured our curriculum places a focus on *all* subjects at Glen Hills Primary. We offer an aspirational, enriched, challenging and ambitious curriculum which provides children with the knowledge, skills, character, understanding and vocabulary for them to succeed.

Reading and Vocabulary are a key focus for us at Glen Hills and form part of our key drivers along with aspiration, 'Character' building, enrichment and the local and wider community.

## Glen Hills Primary School

### Curriculum Intent Statement

#### *Educate today, for tomorrow...*

*When planning a curriculum Glen Hills recognises the **wide social** and economic backgrounds of our families. The school is on the Leicester City boundary and although the catchment area is predominantly private housing a significant number of our pupils are out-of-catchment from two established City areas containing considerable council housing on the Southern Western boundary of the City of Leicester.*

*Our aim is to offer an aspirational, enriched, challenging and ambitious curriculum to all our pupils to provide them with the knowledge, skills, understanding, character and vocabulary to succeed as lifelong learners. Educate today, for tomorrow.*

*The enriched experiences link with our Route to Resilience character work which underpins the development of our pupils - allowing pupils to be confident lifelong learners with an enjoyment for school and aspirations for the future.*

*Happy motivated and safe pupils, will be successful pupils!*

Every child is recognised as a unique individual. We celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. We are further developing our curriculum to ensure all learning is progressive, sequenced and logically structured so ALL learners can reach their full potential. We constantly provide enrichment opportunities to engage learners and we use Route to Resilience to promote positive attitudes to well-being, resilience, aspirations and learning which reflect the values and skills needed to promote responsibility for future success.

Community involvement is a key aspect of Glen Hills Primary School and a key strength across the school - highlighting our strong Cultural Capital focus and sense of belonging.

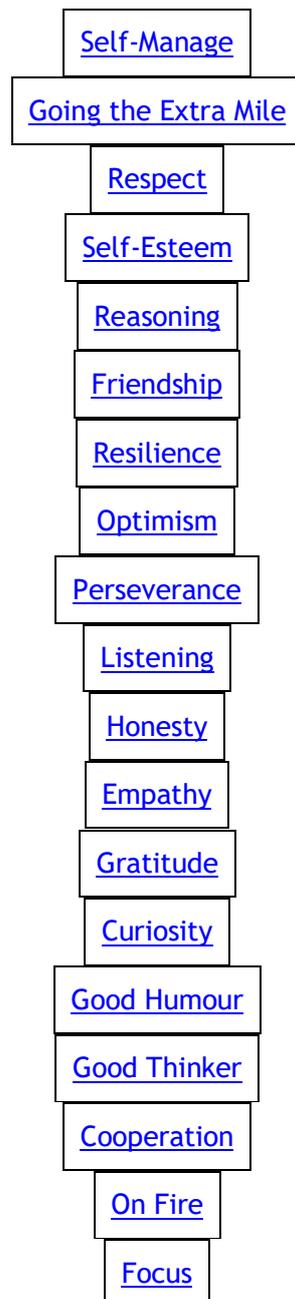
### Curriculum Implementation

Glen Hills Primary School is proud of its knowledge engaged curriculum led by staff with strong subject knowledge across the curriculum. We consider teacher questioning as a key resource when accessing the curriculum and bridging the short to long term memory of pupils. Outstanding questioning is planned and challenges the pupils to develop their learning. We ensure we lead on responsive and adaptive teaching, clearly presented, with appropriate resources and opportunities for retrieval and prior knowledge links.

#### **Inclusion, Route to Resilience and Personal Development and Well-Being**

All the staff are committed to supporting children's happiness and developing character traits that will help them be successful both at school and in life. Our values and growth mind set ethos runs throughout our curriculum as we continue to promote transferable life skills by incorporating the Route to Resilience Programme. All staff and children continue to 'exercise their character muscles'. The ones we have chosen to focus on are:

[Bravery](#)



The learning culture of character is promoted through Route to Resilience. We use the Route to Resilience 'character muscles', which are introduced in assemblies, discussed in class and promoted through activities and actions, to underpin our teaching in all subjects. We also work hard on our schools' safeguarding culture, ensuring safety is paramount and weaves through all aspects of the curriculum. This will ensure our pupils have every opportunity to develop these skills to enhance their confidence, enjoyment and success - while feeling safe and able to learn. Our Curriculum ensures that there is appropriate curriculum coverage of Fundamental British Values. Children learn to take personal responsibility for their own thoughts and actions and work to become the best versions of themselves.

### **Subject Leaders**

At Glen Hills Primary School we have subject leaders who oversee, develop, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their subject within school across all year groups and phases. Staff are committed to delivering high quality learning experiences throughout the curriculum. Support staff have developed their strengths in order to further enhance the quality of learning. The Route to

Resilience 'character muscles' are used as a constant point of reference to allow children to see the impact of their understanding and progress throughout school.

## **Early Years Outcomes and National Curriculum**

### **Maths**

In our Maths curriculum calculation is taught, practiced, and revisited continually. The children can then apply these skills to problems which helps them to reason about number. These skills are transferable to everyday situations where maths is seen as an integral part of life.

### **English**

Reading is a fundamental part of everything we do at Glen Hills. Children are exposed to high quality texts across the curriculum and reading skills are taught explicitly in all year groups. Alongside the skills of decoding and comprehension, discussion of texts encourages children to think as a reader and discuss their preferences, likes and dislikes. Reading for pleasure is a cornerstone of our approach, with a well-stocked and well organised school library which children access both within the timetable and in their own time. The high profile of reading in school is further enhanced by the Reading Miles Programme promoting reading, both within school and at home.

Writing is taught through a range of exciting stimuli which includes books, film clips, artefacts, visitors and real life experiences. We strive to equip children to develop a rich vocabulary which can help them bring pupil's writing to life. Basic skills and non-negotiables underpin writing in all areas of the curriculum. Teachers model the writing process and demonstrate the ambitious high standards expected of all children. Every child is encouraged to let their imagination and personality shine through in their writing. Rainbow Grammar is a key focus at Glen Hills since February 2020 with pupils learning key sentence level work throughout every year group focusing pupils on the fundamental understanding of sentence writing.

### **RE**

Using the Leicestershire RE Agreed Syllabus, children are taught knowledge and understanding around a range of religious and worldwide views so that they can: describe, explain, analyse and investigate allowing them to appreciate beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity, meanings and values within and between communities (including their own) and amongst individuals.

### **PE**

Sport is a huge area of success for Glen Hills, with our Platinum Sports Award. Through our PE curriculum, using the Route to Resilience themes, we endeavour to ensure pupils participate in as much sport as possible, be that in PE sessions, lunchtimes and break times or extra-curricular activities.

### **Art and Design**

A rich and diverse study of artists, coupled with progressive teaching of art and design skills and a mixture of media, ensures our pupils have ample opportunities to develop a love of art and to also develop their skills.

### **History and Geography**

Our History curriculum is steeped in both local, national and world-wide history. To have such a wealth of Roman and Tudor history on our doorstep ensures we can provide an enriched and stimulating history curriculum. Similarly, we pride ourselves on the knowledge and skills taught through local, national and international Geographical studies.

### **Music**

Our Music curriculum is designed to progressively develop children skills in the areas of musical appreciation (listening and discussing), performance on instruments and with voice, composition and recording and evaluating musical performances. We encourage children to focus on the work of great musicians for inspiration and exploration, and to build up a repertoire of techniques and approaches that they can apply in their own compositions.

### **Modern Foreign Languages**

Our MFL curriculum is designed to progressively develop children's skills in languages, through regular taught lessons. Children progressively acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary organised around topics. All of these approaches help to equip our children with the skills to be confident global citizens.

### **Computing**

Our computing curriculum is designed to equip children with the skills and understanding to live in a technological world, this includes being able to use a variety of computer software and coding programmes. There is an emphasis on the importance of Online Safety for all year groups.

### **Science**

Our Science curriculum is designed to develop scientific knowledge and understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science, for now and the future.

### **Outdoor Learning**

Glen Hills Primary School uses numerous opportunities to take children outside the classroom to make learning more relevant to their lives in the community and wider world. We encourage children to be responsible for and respect the local community and environment giving them a sense of belonging and ownership of the place in which they live. We explore the uses of the local area, integrating subjects so that meaningful activities can be planned and delivered effectively and regularly.

### **Visits, Visitors and Enrichment**

In the curriculum we recognise that children's learning is enhanced by different experiences. We offer children a wide range of educational visits which are used to motivate and engage learning which improves retention.

### **Lunchtimes and the Wider Curriculum**

We consider lunchtime and extra-curricular activities to be an extension of the curriculum. Children have the opportunity to practice the transferable skills they have learnt during lessons. Structured play opportunities are provided children are encouraged to think creatively, apply their understanding in individual ways to be able to draw upon their own experiences and to be imaginative during play.

### **Curriculum Impact**

The impact of the curriculum is evident in the outcomes for all pupils, they take pride on their work and we value transition so all our learners are ready for the next stage of their learning. Attendance is in line with national and celebrated in school.