

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Maths

In our school, we teach maths through the CPA approach. This involves first using concrete resources to make sense of a concept, before accessing pictorial representations and finally understanding in an abstract way. We use White Rose resources to inform our approach to maths and children are taught in mixed ability classes.

As a school, we work in conjunction with the NCETM maths hub to develop and embed our approach to maths mastery.

Our calculation policies are available to view on this page.

SUBJECT: English

We place the highest importance on the successful development of literacy skills.

We believe that every child can be a good reader and teach them the skills to be able to achieve this. In addition, we use the VIPERS (an acronym for the skills of Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summary / Sequence) to teach reading. We encourage the love of reading and our classes enjoy storytime every day. We use a wide range of high quality texts to teach reading and books are levelled to indicate suitability for different ages. Free readers can choose any texts from class reading shelves or our library.

For our earliest readers, we teach Phonics using the RWI scheme of work. Phonics is a synthetic system of teaching reading by enabling children to decode the representation of letters (graphemes) into a sound (phoneme) and how to blend sounds together to make words and meaning. More information about Read Write Inc can be found here: <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents-copy-2/>

We believe in the importance of teaching children to read as a writer and to write as a reader. We carefully structure the teaching of English to ensure that reading skills link explicitly to writing. Grammar is taught in the context of a text type and children are given weekly spelling lessons to ensure that they understand the rules and patterns involved.

Vocabulary is a key focus in our school and children are exposed to both tier 2 and tier 3 words across the curriculum. We take time to ensure that children understand the meaning of new words and encourage them to explore nuances within these.

EYFS:

The first year of school is a very important stage as it helps your child establish the building blocks of their education. At Great Addington, we place the emphasis on nurturing the whole child from the moment that they enter our doors. We ensure that every child is able to embark on their own personal learning journey and provide the environment necessary for this.

Our youngest children follow the Early Foundation Curriculum which breaks down early development into 7 broad areas.

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Literacy;
- Mathematics;

- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.

Our full Long Term Plan for the Reception Year can be accessed on this page.

Foundation subjects:

We believe in delivering a broad and balanced curriculum for all of our children. Our foundation lessons focus on equipping children with the knowledge and understanding that they need to leave our school with a deep insight into the world around them.

Our children receive specialist teaching in music and MFL and teachers are supported in delivering PE lessons by experienced sports coaches.

We use Purple Mash to teaching computing and through this platform pupils have access to a wide range of programmes and applications.

Religious Education

In 2019, our school was judged as an 'excellent' church school by SIAMS. We believe that Religious Education plays a significant role in the promotion of spiritual, moral, cultural and mental development.

We follow the Understanding Christianity scheme of work for our teaching of Christianity. This is supplemented by the Diocese of Peterborough Syllabus for Religious Education 2019 - 2024, which is mainly used for the teaching of other world faiths.

The syllabus aims for pupils to explore core Christian concepts by using important teachings from Bible texts, making sense of them and understanding the impact of these texts and concepts on Christians today.