

Walter Infant School

"To be the best I can be"



Walter Infant School is an equitable, safe, secure and happy place to learn; our children grow as individuals in a stimulating and exciting environment which values respect, empathy, kindness, honesty and resilience.

Our BIG Curriculum!

Walter Infant School is a larger than average three form entry infant school with a 52 place nursery; we consider ourselves to be a "BIG School for LITTLE PEOPLE". We have designed a 'BIG' curriculum to excite, inspire and foster a desire to learn; we want our children to know more about the world around them and to be happy, confident and successful.

Intent

We want our children to have very positive behaviours for learning and to ask BIG questions and we want our staff team to support our children in finding authentic, age-appropriate answers to questions which stimulate them to want to learn more.

The children will learn through real-life and practical experiences, as well as through wonderful, awe inspiring fiction texts and exciting non-fiction texts. Our children will learn inside and outside the classroom, fulfilling and exceeding the requirements of national age-appropriate curriculums in a stimulating and memorable way.



Values at Walter Infant School

We have chosen values which reflect the ethos of our school; The Walter Infant School High Five!



We have a Kindness Tree where we celebrate acts of kindness; children are rewarded by the staff and children in school when they are observed acting kindly towards others.



We have weekly assembly themes based on our school values, Respect, Empathy, Kindness, Honesty and Resilience and Universal Values (Fundamental British Values)

- **Democracy**
- **Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Tolerance**
- **Mutual Respect**



Our values are fostered and promoted throughout all the teaching and learning at Walter Infant School as well as through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), our Expectations for Behaviour and our Religious Education Syllabus.

Why have we designed our curriculum in this way?

- We need to open the doors to a love of learning and a need to know more
- To develop inquisitive young minds
- To build solid foundations based on positive behaviours for learning
- To facilitate both enquiry AND skills based around a thematic, creative approach
- To build positive self-esteem
- To teach the skills required to prepare our children for the next steps in their learning journey
- To enable children to take risks and not to fear making mistakes
- To share experiences and learn from others
- To enable our children to know how to keep themselves safe and how to protect others
- To foster the universal values of tolerance, democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect and the rule of law, as well as our school values of Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Empathy and Resilience



What do we want it to be?

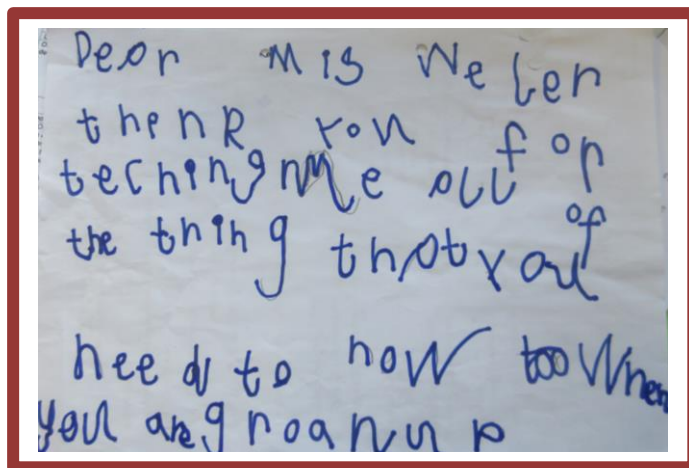
- Exciting, interesting, fun and memorable
- Progressive: building term on term, year on year at an age appropriate level that challenges all children
- Equitable and fair, meeting the needs of ALL our children from the most vulnerable to the most able
- Skillfully differentiated to ensure differences diminish and innate potential is reached and even exceeded!



Walter Infant School's School Improvement Officer reported that the curriculum was...

"A rich and age-appropriate curriculum which underlines the belief by Jerome Bruner that you can teach anything to any child at any age if it is taught in an age appropriate manner."

Archie in Foundation Stage wrote to say...



What do we want our children to be?

Inspired by the world around them and stimulated and intrigued by good quality literature and....

challenged kind brave honest ambitious
CARING diligent flexible successful
HAPPY
Patient RESPECTFUL THOUGHTFUL reflective
ENERGETIC CURIOUS empathetic
tolerant understanding resilient

Implementation: Our Curriculum Policy

At Walter Infant School we believe that all children are entitled to receive a broad and balanced curriculum which is interesting and engaging and provides a range of learning opportunities that help develop a life-long love of learning.

At Walter Infant School our curriculum is planned to ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop:

- Socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically, spiritually, morally, culturally (SMSC)
- Positive attitudes, healthy relationships, essential life and work skills.

- The ability to make informed choices, gaining experiences and developing responsibilities for their future.



We will:

- Enable all children to reach high standards of attainment.
- Set challenging expectations of educational standards and achievement, acknowledging and challenging disadvantage and discrimination in all forms.
- Increase children's motivation, enthusiasm and engagement in their learning by making learning exciting and meaningful by putting it into a context.
- Value individuals and communities.
- Help children to become more independent and take greater ownership of their learning.
- Develop their confidence and motivation to learn through the use of a range of teaching and learning styles.
- Acknowledge specific individual needs and meet them as far as possible with available resources.
- Provide wide and varied education experiences, which are based on the Foundation Stage Curriculum and the Key Stage 1 National Curriculum.
- Enable pupils to receive an education that will serve them well beyond their Key Stage 1 school experience.
- Provide opportunities to apply knowledge and learning in practical ways and to solve problems in a variety of situations.



The Creative Curriculum

At Walter Infant School in order to engage, inspire and motivate we actively seek out opportunities to make the learning more meaningful for the pupils. This is achieved in a number of ways, including:

- Making links across subjects through the use of topic work.
- Identifying areas of interest to capture pupils' curiosity.
- Selecting inspirational and appropriate fiction and non-fiction texts to excite, stimulate and motivate our young learners.
- Using a range of teaching styles to encompass the different learners within the classroom.
- Planning themed days/weeks to encourage creativity and innovation.
- Incorporating local and national initiatives.
- Working with other schools and the local community.



Curriculum Enhancement

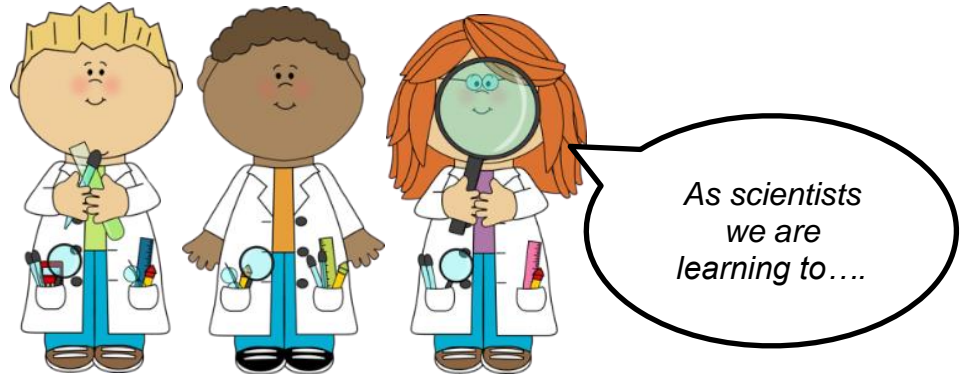
We enhance our curriculum, and support our staff, by using some resources that have been carefully selected to meet the learning needs of our children in a fun, age-appropriate and interesting way:

Religious Education

We follow the local authority **SACRE**, but enhance our curriculum by learning from the personal experiences of our community, including our staff and, most importantly our children. We also support the learning by using **Discovery**, which enables our teachers to plan appropriate lessons with exciting resources, which meet expectations and challenges our children to ask questions!

Science

We follow the National Curriculum Expectations for Science but we are enhancing it by using Explorify to encourage the children to develop their enquiry skills by asking BIG questions; we want all our children to 'think like scientists'; we use the children's responses to ensure that we have challenging learning opportunities and progression from Foundation 1 to the end of Year 2.



<https://explorify.wellcome.ac.uk/>

Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE)

Personal, Social and Health Education is at the heart of our curriculum, underpinned by our ethos and values.

We want our children to:

- be able to take care of themselves, including keeping themselves safe
- feel like part of our school community and to develop positive relationships with children and adults
- understand how to be healthy, physically and emotionally and to know what to do if they don't

We aim to work in partnership with the NSPCC each year to share messages that support our parents and children.

We have also invested in a highly recommended resource to support teaching, learning and understanding in PSHE: **SUMO** – Stop, Understand, Move, On: Sumo is Latin for 'I choose' and we have chosen it to empower children and teachers in an innovative and accessible way. **SUMO4Schools** has been put together by experts in education to help children develop skills for life. SUMO is designed to develop resilience, relationship building and to improve motivation.

<http://www.sumo4schools.com/> **STOP UNDERSTAND MOVE ON**

Computing at Walter Infant school

We teach our children how to use computers and how to keep themselves safe when using technology, including online activity. It is our aim to meet the needs of the computing curriculum, developing keyboard and mouse skills, searching, saving and retrieving skills and coding, de-bugging and algorithms. Our children learn to use hand-held devices at home, so we work in partnership with our families so that our children develop a well-rounded understanding of Information Technology. Our

Foundation Team shares a Technology Questionnaire with our families. Our children can access the school learning platform using a password so that they can share their new skills and apply their knowledge at home. Our children know how to keep themselves safe when using a computer linked to the internet and we use the SMART code:



We also work in partnership with the NSPCC to ensure our children's safety, holding workshops for our parents to attend.



Physical Education (PE)

We consider Physical Education and Physical Development (in the Foundation Stage) to be of paramount importance; our children have the opportunity to develop so many skills and to have lots of fun. We have invested some of our sports funding in a sustainable, all weather pitch and have an excellent team of professional sports coaches who work with all children from Foundation 2 to Year 2. Our curriculum ensures we meet the expectations from the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage Guidance and much, much more.

We also have a large selection of extra-curricular activities for the children to enjoy. If we have children who find developing the physical skills difficult, we are able to provide additional PE lessons to enable them to practise their skills and become more confident and resilient.

Our teachers are highly skilled at planning enjoyable lessons to engage children in physical education.

Our Teachers and Support Staff will:

- Demonstrate deep knowledge and understanding of what they teach.
- Use highly effective questioning to develop learning, address misconceptions and to reinforce and consolidate understanding
- Plan lessons very effectively, making the maximum use of teaching and learning time and coordinate lesson resources well, building on the children's interests and real life experiences

- Provide the children with incisive feedback about what our children can so to improve their knowledge, understanding and skills
- Embed reading, writing and communication and, where appropriate mathematics, exceptionally well across the curriculum, equipping all our learners with the necessary skills to make progress

Our young learners will:

- Love the challenge of learning and become resilient to failure
- Be curious, interested learners who seek out and use new information to develop, consolidate and deepen their knowledge, understanding and skills
- Develop a life-long love of learning and a thirst to know more
- Thrive in their lessons and also take opportunities to learn through extra-curricular activities
- Show care and consideration for others, as well as themselves
- Understand the value of cooperation and team work
- Ask questions, share information and talk about what they have learned



“We are a BIG school for LITTLE PEOPLE with a BIG CURRICULUM asking the BIG questions”



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