

Curriculum Rationale

Introduction

North Molton is a small village primary school, situated in the South Molton area of Devon. With a White British demographic located in a rural setting, the school represents a close-knit, farming community.

Curriculum Intent

At North Molton, providing our children with a curriculum that inspires a love of learning is our top priority: a curriculum that is contextual, highly relevant and purposeful, well-organised and cumulative, engaging for both staff and pupils, and that will really make a difference to their outlook and views. We want every child to have high aspirations and we aim to offer a wide range of inspiring, motivating learning experiences, developing cultural capital through planned activities, such as residential trips, and teaching them about human creativity and achievement.

We want the pupils' learning to be foundational and cumulative, and developing children as learning by supporting a good work ethic and an eagerness to learn, as well as addressing weaknesses, such as complacency and a lack of resilience.

We believe the curriculum should be connected in a meaningful way, evidencing clear progression and encouraging application of skills and knowledge through a consistent, cohesive approach across school.

Curriculum Implementation

We use Dimensions 'Learning Means the World' Curriculum to help us achieve this. It is underpinned by four highly relevant world issues, known as the four Cs: -

Culture

Communication

Conflict

Conservation

Communication

We believe that communication is foundational to accessing learning and securing pupils' future success. With a focus on developing speech and language when pupils enter school, we want them to go on to be able to clearly articulate their ideas and reasoning clearly, in both spoken and written forms. We want them to be able to express themselves fluently and appropriately, with an awareness of audience, as part of their personal, social and emotional development as well as building their English skills.

Culture

As a school that represents a White British demographic with little knowledge of, or interaction with, other cultures, we want our pupils to fully appreciate and embrace cultural diversity, learning about and experiencing a range of different cultural and faith heritages. We want them to value diversity, understand the roots and importance of cultural heritage and to behave in a respectful and

tolerant way towards others, regardless of faith, ethnicity or background. We actively and explicitly promote respect and are working to improve tolerance and understanding through 'Learning Means the World'. The curriculum celebrates diversity while supporting the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, ensuring that children are well prepared for life in modern Britain and the wider world.

Conflict

We believe that life skills should be taught throughout the curriculum and an understanding of responsible, respectful behaviour is an important aspect of learning. Having a developed understanding of sources of conflict and the importance of seeing things from others' points of view, we believe, will make a difference to their own choices as children learn more about conflict resolution. We want our pupils to be able to work through their differences in areas of conflict e.g. gender stereotyping, realising how important positive relationships are throughout life.

Conservation

We feel our pupils need a more structured approach to developing greater awareness and appreciation of local, national and global conservation issues and initiatives, learning how they have an important role to play in sustainability. We want our pupils to be much more informed about conservation issues, realising that a 'throw away' attitude to resources and seeing everything as disposable has led to many environmental issues. We want them to care passionately about our world and to engage actively as good stewards, both now and in the future. We are very fortunate to be situated on the edge of Exmoor National Park and have a large field with a small orchard and we want our pupils to fully appreciate and benefit from this.

