



Curriculum Policy Including EYFS

Introduction

At Moreton Hall Preparatory School we provide a curriculum which develops all round day and boarding pupils. In the classroom a broad academic curriculum is taught. This is supplemented by a wider curriculum consisting of trips and visits by outside companies. A full range of extra-curricular and sporting activities compliment the balanced curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to develop their musical skills by being offered the opportunity to learn musical instruments as well as participate in the school choir. The requirements of the Independent Examination Board as well as the National Curriculum are met. Our pupils develop as individuals who enjoy taking on extra responsibilities and become independent learners.

Aims:

- To encourage pupils
- To support pupils as individual learners
- To celebrate cultural differences
- To celebrate British Values
- To encourage lively and enquiring minds
- To instil a Catholic ethos
- To produce a curriculum ensuring continuity and progression
- To cater for pupils of both sexes
- To cater for pupils from different social and ethnic groups
- To cater for all students whatever their ability
- To ensure pupils achieve and extend their best
- To provide a stimulating environment
- To encourage a sense of responsibility and self- discipline

Overview

Pre-Preparatory Department

Reception

The teaching is based on the Curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage. The seven areas of learning within the Foundation Stage cover the main areas of young children's development.

The three prime areas are:

- Communication and language
 - o Listening and attention
 - o Understanding
 - o Speaking
- Physical development
 - o Moving and handling
 - o Health and self-care
- Personal, social and emotional development
 - o Self-confidence and self-awareness
 - o Managing feelings and behaviour
 - o Making relationships

The four specific areas are:

- Literacy
 - o Reading
 - o Writing
- Mathematics
 - o Numbers
 - o Shape, space and measures
- Understanding the World
 - o People and communities
 - o The world
 - o Technology
- Expressive arts and design
 - o Exploring and using media and materials
 - o Being imaginative

During the foundation years we aim to introduce the areas of learning through a variety of stimulating and challenging experiences. We base the learning and play activities on the children's existing skills and interests making full use of inside and outside learning spaces. Through carefully structured work we provide opportunities to develop confidence, relationships and a love of learning. Phonics is established in reception which is developed and built on in Pre-Prep. We monitor the children's progress by observation and continually assess their progress and attainment. These observations inform planning.

French is introduced in Reception and pupils are taught Dance, Sport, Music, Swimming and French by specialist teachers.

We maintain a Learning Journey for each child throughout the Foundation Stage. This profile is continually updated and shared with parents on a regular basis.

PPI & PPII

We follow the National Curriculum guidelines for English, Mathematics, Science and foundation subjects but remain flexible to the needs and expectations of an independent school. Each year group is taught as a mixed ability class. However the needs of all pupils are met with a carefully planned and delivered curriculum.

Our foundation subjects include:

- Science
- History
- Geography
- R.E
- Music
- PSHE
- French
- Art
- Design & Technology
- Music
- Games
- Swimming

In addition, French, Games, Dance, Swimming and Music are taught by specialist teachers.

The teaching of phonics is established in Reception and continued through Pre-Prep I and II following the Letters & Sounds programme. Pupils who are identified as needing support with reading follow a specialist phonics programme until they become confident and fluent readers.

There are opportunities for children to have peripatetic music instrument lessons during school time.

Religious Education reflects the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church while pupils also learn about the beliefs and celebrations of other world religions.

The curriculum is further enhanced by regular outings to local venues for example Museums, Cathedrals and Churches and the theatre. All pupils have the opportunity to perform in productions, concerts and assemblies. We have a weekly Pre-Prep assembly where we cover areas of PSHE and celebrate and learn about different cultures.

Preparatory Department

Year 3- Transition

Named Transition as it is seen as an important year at Moreton Hall, where our pupils enter the Prep School but the Pre Prep is never far away. Pupils experience teaching by more teachers, enjoying specialist teaching. A small element of teaching takes part in different classrooms. The length of the day increases as does our pupils' independence and social skills. In English and Maths, work is linked to the National Literacy and Numeracy Strategies. However, materials are also introduced which are endorsed by ISEB.

Years 4-7 (Forms IV-VII)

As our pupils progress through the school the emphasis on the Common Entrance Examinations increases. The importance of sport, practical activities and the wider curriculum is never forgotten. Pupils are examined regularly and their progress is monitored as they progress through the school. Our pupils continue to become more independent both socially and academically. A greater degree of responsibility for possessions is encouraged as from Form IV upwards pupils move more frequently to different rooms for their lessons.

Year 8 (Form VIII)

This is the year where the preparation and hard work pay off. Our pupils are well prepared for Scholarships and/or Common Entrance Examination in June. After their exams they are given the opportunity to undertake a hectic schedule consisting of a residential trip, day trips and in school activities where they are allowed a greater degree of independence. However, they never forget their responsibilities including that of Head Boy/Girl, Sports' captains and monitors. The strong friendship bonds which are built over their years at Moreton Hall are never forgotten.

Our pupils continue to enjoy an education which reflects the Roman Catholic beliefs. Pupils study the Catholic faith in greater detail in their Religious Education lessons where a Catholic module is followed. Pupils attend Mass twice a month and boarders attend a Catholic Church regularly.

Planning

Subject co-ordinators produce a curriculum document which is used to support planning throughout the school. Medium term plans are produced by individual teachers and are given to parents in the form of 'Curriculum Summaries' at the beginning of the academic year. Planning is monitored by the Head of Pre Prep and the Deputy Head.

Monitoring and review

The Head, Deputy Head and Head of Pre-Prep monitor teaching and learning. This is done through lesson observations, monitoring planning and through scrutinising pupils' work. Discussions and the sharing of good practice are encouraged. Pupils' academic progress is closely monitored by the Deputy Head to ensure that pupils are performing to their potential and make good progress. Discussions reviewing pupils' progress are held regularly

Review

The Curriculum document will be reviewed by the Headmaster, Deputy Head (Academic) and Head of Pre-Prep in September 2018 or sooner should the need arise.