



Curriculum Statement



Welcome to Featherstone Academy – a proud and vibrant school at the heart of the community in the village of Featherstone, Staffordshire. Thank you for taking an interest in our school. This is the ‘Curriculum Overview and Practice Manual,’ a document that summarises and presents all elements that make up the excellent practice at our school: from our vision and our aims, to our curriculum, planning and assessment and even the content/set up of our learning. We are very proud of what we stand for, offer and give our children every day.

Vision:

Featherstone Primary School aspires to equip every child with the skills they need for lifelong learning by developing confident, ambitious learners, who take ownership of their learning and are proud of their achievements as they grow. We aim to do this through a curriculum that is fun, engaging, knowledge rich, and designed specifically for the children of our school.

Intent:

- To aim for each child to achieve their full potential in all areas of the curriculum, so that they are equipped and prepared for their Secondary transition.
- To provide a curriculum that is designed to excite and motivate children with a range of topics and projects that are of interest to them and to which they can fully contribute so that their learning is engaging, interactive and challenging.
- To create a positive, safe learning environment and to endeavour to develop the whole child, meeting individual needs where differences are recognised, celebrated and appreciated.
- To encourage pupils to be responsible British citizens for the future who can actively contribute to a diverse society.
- To support each child’s emotional well-being so that they can talk openly about their feelings with confidence.
- To equip children to evaluate and assess, to take risks and to make positive choices as part of their learning.
- To promote lifelong learning to all, through high quality professional development for all staff and by developing a learning culture throughout the school.
- To include all members of the school community, pupils, parents, governors and staff, in the process of development not only of themselves but also of the school itself.

Implementation:

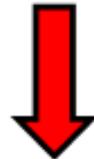
At Featherstone Academy we implement our curriculum through the three H's: head, heart and hand, which is what we at Featherstone Academy believe is important for our children.

Head



We aim to develop children's subject knowledge in all subjects within the curriculum so that children leave our school working at age related expectations (ARE). We do this through a knowledge rich curriculum which offers children a variety of experiences to develop their knowledge further. This will in turn prepare them for their next stage in learning.

Heart



We aim to give the children the opportunity to develop their social and emotional well-being. Through lessons such as : PSHE, RE, PE, we endeavour to promote:

- Empathy and tolerance for others.
- Understanding boundaries and how to conduct oneself appropriately
- The need for a healthy body and mind.
- Pride and the desire to do their best in anything that they undertake.

Hand



We aim to develop the skills children need for life-long learning and contributing to society, promoting:

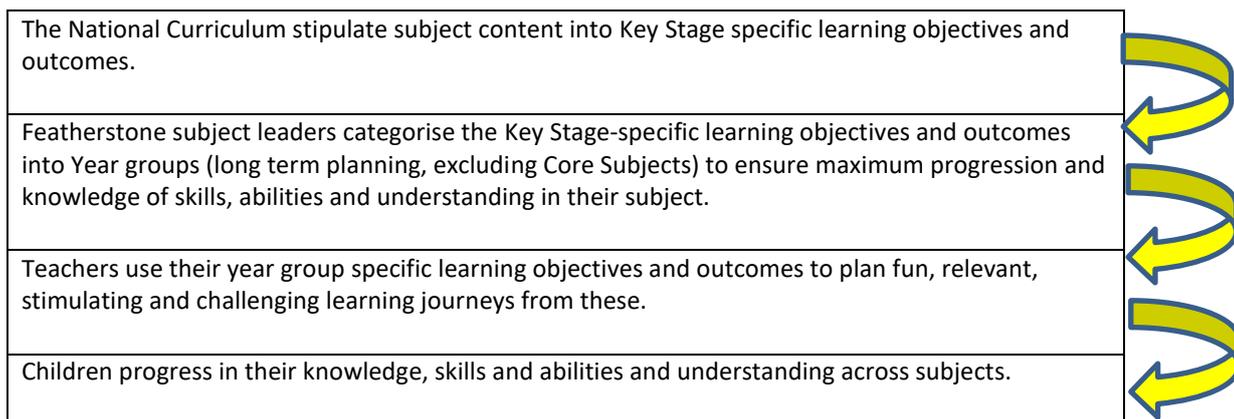
- Creativity
- Thinking critically
- Risk taking and experimenting
- Reflectiveness
- Perseverance and grit



Leaving Featherstone Academy as well-rounded young people, ready to face any challenges that lie ahead.

Within the knowledge section of our curriculum, we aim to ensure we are in line with the 2014 National Curriculum expectations. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum that promotes pupils’ spiritual, cultural, mental and physical development and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. Children’s learning from our delivery of The National Curriculum develops the essential knowledge that they will need to be educated citizens.

As part of The National Curriculum, children attend lessons in English, Maths and Science (Core subjects) and Art and Design, Computing, Design and Technology, History Geography, PSHE, RE, Languages (KS2 only), Music and Physical Education. Teachers at Featherstone Academy organise these National Curriculum subjects into high-quality, meaningful learning experiences within a topic or unit of work. These learning journeys combine well-linked subject matter into purposeful themes so that the children benefit from their learning to the greatest possible impact: not only are children engaging in high-quality learning, it is structured in a way to inspire and enthuse the learners – no learning is for its own sake.



At Featherstone Academy, we feel that in some subject areas, children will get a more fulfilling experience and better quality outcomes if specialist teachers teach these. Therefore, PSHE is delivered by HLTA’s across the school. Furthermore, the skills needed for each area of PE in KS2 is delivered by Wolves professional coaches. The children’s class teacher will teach a fitness lesson weekly also.

In addition to this science, along with non-core subjects will be taught as blocked weeks, in KS2. We believe that this will allow children to gain more depth in these subjects. KS1 will continue to have weekly lessons of these subjects, as we feel that they benefit from a varied daily and weekly timetable.

At Featherstone Academy, we also offer a wider curriculum, outside that which is taught. Therefore, we offer children to experience the curriculum through a range for trips, residential visits, in-school workshops, visitors and before and after school clubs. This includes but is not limited to:

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- Residential trip.
- Visits to farms or zoos.
- Visits to museums and art galleries.
- Visits to local businesses.
- Exhibitions.
- Visiting expert – musicians, poets, historians
- Clubs – maths, homework, sports (according to seasons), art, newspaper, drama.
- Featherstone’s Got Talent.
- Children’s University.
- Choir.
- Musical tuition such as keyboard, recorder, violin.
- Links with local sports teams - Wolves
Coaches offering PE and Premiership Reading Stars.
- Links with local university.