



Ark Swift
Primary Academy

The Ark Swift Curriculum - Intent



The Ark Swift curriculum is the planned experiences and interaction our children encounter every day. In their entirety, these are designed to engage all learners, offering new and exciting learning opportunities for everyone. Our powerful and knowledge rich curriculum aims to empower and inform children in preparation for the next steps in their educational career. Our curriculum is designed to develop a capacity to accommodate new knowledge building on prior knowledge and experiences, resulting in curious minds.

Our goal is to help give young people the best start in life, regardless of their circumstances or background.

Our aim is to create an excellent school that gives every child the opportunity to succeed and flourish at secondary school and later to go to university or pursue the career of their choice.

Our curriculum ensures that our children are active participants in the learning process: they are challenged to reason, question, reflect and analyse, becoming empathetic yet independent thinkers.

The Ark Swift Primary Curriculum

Our curriculum could be viewed as a relentless and ever searching quest into the question of:

‘What should children be learning about and how will this content and effective teaching of it improve the education and life of children?’

There has been a dual focus on **what** children should be learning and **how** best it should be taught.

In making decisions about what should be taught we have ensured that this curriculum covers all entitlements of the National Curriculum as well as drawing on elements of exceptional practice from UK and beyond. Having reviewed and researched how children learn best, we have applied these principles into our approach for how best to deliver the curriculum.

Children arrive at Primary school with a real curiosity and zest for learning. They bounce through the doors of Nursery or reception with a world of opportunity before them.

This curriculum aims to inspire those young minds to keep learning; to share with them a deep and meaningful content of knowledge; to give them the courage, confidence and ability to communicate their thoughts, ideas and new learning effectively whilst maintaining curiosity and inquisitiveness.

We pride ourselves on:

Quality teaching every day: Learning and equality of opportunity for all is fundamental at Ark Swift. We promote a collaborative learning model, where children teach and learn from each other, promoting a deeper understanding of the curriculum. By prioritising the development of teachers’ expertise and the engagement of children in enquiring learning opportunities, all our pupils make significant progress. Teachers know their children extremely well and when any pupil falls behind, extra help and support is given.

Reading at the heart of the curriculum: Ark Swift is a school that is passionate about reading. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum because we know that the child who excels in reading, will excel across the whole curriculum - for reading is the cornerstone of education. We strive to nurture life-long readers who take pleasure in reading famous high-quality literature, yet also delving into exciting new fiction and non-fiction books which inspire them to explore and discover further.

Strong Curriculum Design: We provide a culturally rich and vibrant programme of learning. Cross-curricular links are harnessed to establish cohesion within units of work and each subject contains carefully chosen skills, knowledge and vocabulary - outlined in our curriculum overviews and progression maps - to expand children’s experience and thinking potential. These elements are delivered through well taught and appropriately sequenced lessons which are scaffolded and deepened to meet the needs of all learners and ensure success.

Enrichment and Outdoor Learning: Our curriculum is carefully supplemented and broadened by frequent local trips, workshops and visits. These culturally rich experiences enhance our children’s learning and develop their oral and writing ability in all areas of the curriculum. We also endeavour to take the

learning outside as often as we can, taking advantage of our extensive grounds to positively develop our pupils social, emotional and academic skills.

Our Cultural Values: Threaded throughout our school and revisited continuously are our cultural values:

Aim High

Be Brave

Keep Learning

Through their promotion, teachers develop pupils' self-esteem and resilience in the pursuit of knowledge ensuring our children delight in challenge, strengthen their imagination, and become risk takers who do not fear failure.