

The National Curriculum is made up of the following subjects:
English, Maths, Science,
Computing, Design Technology, History, Geography,
Music, Art, Physical Education and
Personal, Social and Health Education

English

The English curriculum consists of three profile components:

Speaking and Listening

In order to communicate effectively with others, children need to develop a range of speaking skills and to be able to listen effectively, processing the information they are given and responding appropriately. To develop these skills the children are given a range of experiences from performing in front of groups, presenting and the use of IT equipment.

Reading

Phonics teaching is vital to reading development at the early stages and we currently follow the Letters and Sounds programme with great success. Reading is about more than recognising the words on the page though and we develop children's ability to understand and interpret what they read through the use of Guided and Reciprocal reading sessions, using a wide range of literature. The school reading scheme and library helps children develop their independent reading skills and support from home and the chance to read away from school for pleasure is not only encouraged but vital to children reaching their potential as readers and developing a life-long love of reading.

Writing

The ability to write is an essential life skill and a vital means of communication. At Greenhill we understand that writing takes place for a range of purposes and various audiences and plan our activities accordingly. It is important that children understand that writing is not something that is only done in English and therefore the children's writing is developed in a cross-curricular manner, with many opportunities for short and longer writing tasks. Spelling is an important element of writing and ensuring communication is effective. Therefore, children will bring home spellings to learn on a weekly basis.

Mathematics

Throughout the teaching of Mathematics at Greenhill School, we aim to develop pupils who are confident and competent in all aspects of Maths. Mathematics is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment. Therefore we recognise the importance of a high quality mathematics curriculum. It is with this mind that we nurture an enthusiastic attitude to Maths where the children show resilience and a desire to learn. We focus on a concrete, pictorial, abstract approach to the teaching of concepts to give children strong foundations to build upon as they move through their educational journey at Greenhill and beyond. It is our aim at Greenhill School that pupils should enjoy Mathematics and be confident and competent enough to tackle problems independently.

Science

The children develop their scientific knowledge and understanding through investigations and experiments where they take the lead in the learning. Experiments and investigations are designed in such a way that children develop their ability to predict, plan methodically, hypothesise, observe, measure, record, interpret and communicate their findings

Where appropriate the following foundation subjects are taught through a cross-curricular, topic based approach.

History

In History children are taught the skills needed to research information, present it and understand chronology. Teaching should equip pupils to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups. Children develop their understanding of cause and effect and gain a coherent knowledge of British and World history.

Technology

Technology is a practical subject that requires children to carefully plan, prepare, review and problem solve. It involves children understanding many processes and applying what they know to create their projects. Children are introduced to the safe handling of a variety of materials and tools in technology sessions and taught to work safely and accurately.

Computing

Computing prepares children to participate in the rapidly changing world in which we live and at Greenhill we have invested heavily in this area. We have 40 laptops and 30 iPads available to the children. Children are taught the skills they need to not only use, but understand the technology available to them. These skills are taught discreetly but have application across the curriculum and have really brought the children's learning to life as whole.

French

Children begin learning French from Reception class and this continues up to Year 6. We have a specialist French teacher who provides the children with expert input through practical and fun activities. The ability to learn new languages is one that is vitally important in our ever changing world and multicultural society.

Geography

Geography is the study of both people through human geography and places through physical geography. The delivery is usually topic based and links heavily to history. Children are taught through direct experience such as visits and secondary sources in the classroom. Relevant skills and geographical terminology are taught across the age range and practical experiences to apply skills such as map reading are given.

Art and Music

At Greenhill we consider Art to be more than just the fine arts but also the performing arts and music. Children are introduced to a great variety of materials and media and are given opportunities to work using a range of skills and techniques. The children are introduced to the work and techniques of a range of artists from different time periods and genres as well as having input from specialist performing arts and music teachers.

P.E.

In our physical education programme we aim to promote our children's health, physical development, sense of fair play and confidence. The children experience a wide range of P.E. activities including dance, gymnastics, games, athletics and swimming, some of which are provided by specialist coaches.