

Physical Education (PE) Policy

1 Aims and objectives

1.1 Physical education develops the children's knowledge, skills and understanding, so that they can perform with increasing competence and confidence in a range of physical activities. These include dance, games, gymnastics, swimming and water safety, athletics and outdoor adventure activities. Physical education promotes an understanding in children of their bodies in action. It involves thinking, selecting and applying skills, and it promotes positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle. Thus we enable the children to make informed choices about physical activity throughout their lives.

1.2 The objectives of teaching PE in our school are:

- to enable children to develop and explore physical skills with increasing control and coordination;
- to encourage children to work and play with others in a range of group situations;
- to develop the way children perform skills, and apply rules and conventions, for different activities;
- to show children how to improve the quality and control of their performance;
- to teach children to recognise and describe how their bodies feel during exercise;
- to develop the children's enjoyment of physical activity through creativity and imagination;
- to develop an understanding in children of how to succeed in a range of physical activities, and how to evaluate their own success.

2 Teaching and learning style

2.1 We use a variety of teaching and learning styles in PE lessons. Our principle aim is to develop the children's knowledge, skills and understanding, and we do this through a mixture of whole-class teaching and individual or group activities. The PE teacher draws attention to good examples of individual performance as models for the other children, and we encourage the children to evaluate their own work as well as the work of other children. Within lessons we give the children the opportunity both to collaborate and to compete with each other, and they have the opportunity to use a wide range of resources.

2.2 In all classes children have a wide range of physical ability. Whilst recognising this fact, we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of strategies:

- setting common tasks that are open-ended and can have a variety of results (e.g. timed events, such as an 80m sprint);
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty, where not all children complete all tasks (e.g. the high jump);
- grouping children by ability, and setting different tasks for each group (e.g. different games);
- providing a range of challenge through the provision of different resources (e.g. different gymnastics equipment).

3 PE curriculum planning

- 3.1** PE is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. Our school uses the national scheme of work as the basis for its curriculum planning in PE. We have adapted the national scheme to the local circumstances of the school. As required, we teach dance, games and gymnastics at Key Stage 1. In Key Stage 2 we teach compulsory dance, games and gymnastics, plus two other activities: swimming and water safety, and athletics.
- 3.2** The curriculum planning in PE is carried out in three phases (long-term, medium-term and short-term). The long-term plan maps out the PE activities covered in each term during the key stage. The PE subject leader devises this plan in conjunction with teaching colleagues in each year group.
- 3.3** We use the national scheme of work as the basis for our medium term plans. This gives details of each unit of work for each term. These plans define what we teach, and ensure an appropriate balance and distribution of work across each term. The subject leader keeps and reviews these plans.
- 3.4** The PE teacher completes a daily plan for each PE lesson. This gives details of how the lesson is to be taught. She keeps these plans.
- 3.5** We plan the PE activities so that they build upon the prior learning of the children. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in each activity area, there is progression planned into the scheme of work, so that the children are increasingly challenged as they move up through the school.

4 The Foundation Stage

- 4.1** We encourage the physical development of our children in the Kindergarten and Reception class as an integral part of their work. As they are both part of the Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the physical development of the children to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals, which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five years of age. We encourage the children to develop confidence, control of the way they move, and care in the handling of tools and equipment. We give all children the opportunity to undertake activities that offer appropriate physical challenge, both indoors and outdoors, using a wide range of resources to support specific skills.

Children in the Foundation Stage do not go off site for their PE lessons. They have their lessons within the school.

5 Contribution of PE to teaching in other curriculum areas

5.1 English

PE contributes to the teaching of English in our school by encouraging children to describe what they have done, and to discuss how they might improve their performance.

5.2 Personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship

PE contributes to the teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship. Children learn about the benefits of exercise and healthy eating, and how to make informed choices about these things.

5.3 Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

The teaching of PE offers opportunities to support the social development of our children through the way we expect them to work with each other in lessons. Groupings allow children to work together, and give them the chance to discuss their ideas and performance. Their work in general enables them to develop a respect for other children's levels of ability, and encourages them to co-operate across a range of activities and experiences. Children learn to respect and work with each other, and develop a better understanding of themselves and of each other.

6 PE and inclusion

6.1 We teach PE to all children, whatever their ability or individual needs. PE forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our PE teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this. For further details see separate policies: Special Educational Needs; Disability Non-Discrimination and Access; Gifted and Talented; English as an Additional Language (EAL).

6.2 When progress falls significantly outside the expected range, the child may have special educational needs. Our assessment process looks at a range of factors – equipment, teaching style, differentiation – so that we can take some additional or different action to enable the child to learn more effectively. Assessment against the National Curriculum allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected levels. This helps ensure that our teaching is matched to the child's needs.

6.3 Intervention through School Action and School Action Plus will lead to the creation of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for children with special educational needs. The IEP may include, as appropriate, specific targets relating to PE.

6.4 We enable all pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning PE. Where children are to participate in activities outside our school (a sports event at another school, for example) we carry out a risk assessment prior to the activity, to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

7 Assessment for learning

7.1 The PE teacher assesses children's work in PE by making assessments as she observes them working during lessons. Older pupils are encouraged to evaluate their own work and to suggest ways to improve. At the end of a unit of work, the PE teacher makes a judgement against the National Curriculum levels of attainment. The PE teacher records this information and uses it to plan the future work of each child. These records also enable the PE teacher to make an annual assessment of progress for each child, as part of the school's annual report to parents. The PE teacher passes this information on to the next teacher at the end of each year.

- 7.2** The PE teacher keeps photographic and video evidence of children's work in a portfolio (this is to be developed). This demonstrates what the expected level of achievement is in each area of PE activity in each year of the school.

8 Resources

- 8.1** There is a range of resources available to support the teaching of PE across the school. We keep most of our small equipment in the PE cupboard, and this is accessible to children only under adult supervision. The majority of PE lessons take place at the local leisure centres where we have full use of all facilities and resources. The leisure centres we use are Fox Hollies, Tudor Grange and Norman Green. Children use the school mini bus as transport.

9 Health and safety

- 9.1** It is the general teaching requirement for health and safety that applies to this subject. We encourage the children to consider their own safety and the safety of others at all times. We expect them to change for PE into the agreed clothing for each activity area. The Principal expects the PE teacher to set a good example by wearing appropriate clothing when teaching PE. No potentially dangerous jewellery is to be worn for any physical activity.

The PE teacher is qualified to drive the mini bus and is accompanied by an escort who assists with caring for the children and sits with them in the mini bus. Appropriate risk assessments have been carried out to ensure the children's safety when travelling to and from the leisure centres.

10 Extra-curricular activities

- 10.1** The school plays regular fixtures against other local schools. This introduces a competitive element to team games, and allows the children to put into practice the skills that they have developed in their lessons. These opportunities foster a sense of team spirit and cooperation amongst our children.

11 Monitoring and review

- 11.1** The monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the quality of teaching in PE is the responsibility of the PE teacher.
- 11.2** This policy will be reviewed at least every 2 years.

Signed:

Date: