



The Pines Primary School
Curriculum and Assessment Statement

Name	Curriculum Statement
Frequency of Review	Every two years
Reviewed on:	May 2026
Reviewed by:	Kerry Darby
Next review (date)	July 2028

Our Purpose

At The Pines Primary School, we believe learning should be exciting, meaningful and inspiring. Our curriculum is designed to spark curiosity, nurture confidence and develop a lifelong love of learning in every child.

We provide a rich balance of knowledge, skills and memorable experiences that help children grow academically, socially and emotionally.

Our Vision

“Transforming lives through inspirational learning.”

At The Pines, we deliver a thematic, knowledge-rich curriculum that brings learning to life through meaningful experiences, creativity and real-world connections wherever possible.

Our curriculum is built around our **6 Cs**, which help prepare children for success in an ever-changing world:

- **Character** – developing resilience, confidence and perseverance
- **Citizenship** – understanding and respecting the wider world
- **Collaboration** – learning and working successfully with others
- **Communication** – becoming confident speakers, writers and digital learners
- **Creativity** – exploring ideas and thinking imaginatively
- **Critical Thinking** – questioning, analysing and making connections

We want our children to leave The Pines as kind, capable and curious learners who are ready for the next stage of their education and beyond.

Equality and Inclusion

We are proud to be an inclusive school where every child is valued and supported to succeed. Our curriculum celebrates diversity, promotes respect and helps children develop a strong sense of belonging.

We continually review our curriculum to ensure it reflects our commitment to equality, opportunity and high aspirations for all learners.

Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is carefully planned to:

- Meet the requirements of the National Curriculum (2014)
- Build knowledge and skills progressively from Reception to Year 6
- Respond to the needs and interests of each cohort
- Encourage curiosity, creativity and independence
- Provide memorable experiences beyond the classroom
- Prepare children for lifelong learning

Learning is organised through engaging cross-curricular themes that often include trips, visitors, practical activities and enrichment opportunities.

Each theme is designed to help children make meaningful connections between subjects while developing a deeper understanding of the world around them.

How Learning is Organised

Themes are planned across all year groups and are usually taught over a half term. Each theme is driven by a key subject and linked to purposeful learning experiences across the curriculum.

To support children's engagement and excitement, themes begin with an **Engage and Empower Day**. These special days include exciting activities, challenges or experiences that immerse children in their new learning and inspire curiosity from the very start.

Teachers carefully adapt planning to meet the needs, interests and starting points of their classes while ensuring clear progression in knowledge and skills.

Core Subjects

English

At The Pines, developing a love of reading sits at the heart of our curriculum. We want every child not only to learn to read confidently, but to discover the joy and wonder that books can bring.

Children explore high-quality texts, stories, poetry and non-fiction across the curriculum, helping them develop vocabulary, imagination and a deeper understanding of the world.

Phonics

Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 take part in daily phonics sessions using the Rocket Phonics programme. Lessons are practical, engaging and carefully structured to help children become confident readers and writers.

Children's progress is regularly assessed so that support and challenge can be tailored to individual needs.

Writing

Writing is taught through rich texts, discussion, drama and purposeful experiences that inspire children to communicate clearly and creatively.

We follow the National Curriculum and use the **Write Stuff** approach to help children develop confidence, stamina and enjoyment in writing across a range of genres.

Children are also taught spelling, handwriting and grammar progressively throughout the school.

Mathematics

We believe all children can succeed in mathematics. Through daily maths lessons and a mastery approach, children develop fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills in a supportive and challenging environment.

We follow the White Rose Maths scheme, which breaks learning into small, manageable steps to build deep understanding and confidence.

Practical resources, visual models and mathematical discussion help children explain their thinking and apply their learning in different contexts.

Science

Science is taught through practical, engaging and enquiry-based learning experiences. Wherever possible, science is linked to our themes to help children make meaningful connections in their learning.

Children are encouraged to ask questions, investigate ideas and develop curiosity about the world around them. STEM experiences, visitors and enrichment activities further enhance learning across the subject.

Foundation Subjects

Our wider curriculum is ambitious, creative and inclusive. Through subjects such as History, Geography, RE, PSHE, Computing, PE, Art, DT, Music and Languages, children develop important knowledge, skills and cultural understanding.

We place great value on hands-on learning, creativity and real-world experiences. Educational visits, visitors, performances and practical activities help bring learning to life and make it memorable.

Humanities

Through History and Geography, children develop an understanding of the world, people and events that have shaped society. Themes encourage enquiry, discussion and critical thinking while helping children make connections between the past, present and future.

Religious Education and PSHE

RE (The Emmanuel Scheme) and PSHE help children understand themselves, others and the wider world. Through discussion, reflection and exploration of “big questions”, pupils develop empathy, respect and confidence in expressing their own ideas and beliefs.

We celebrate the diversity of our school community and encourage children to appreciate different cultures, faiths and perspectives.

Computing

Technology is woven throughout our curriculum and helps children develop important digital skills for the future. Children learn to use technology safely, creatively and purposefully across a range of subjects.

E-safety is taught throughout the school to help children become responsible digital citizens.

Expressive Arts

Creativity is central to learning at The Pines. Through Art, Design Technology and Music, children are encouraged to express themselves, experiment with ideas and develop confidence in their creative abilities.

Children experience a range of artistic opportunities including drawing, painting, sculpture, design projects, performance and music-making.

Physical Education

We believe physical activity plays an important role in children's wellbeing, confidence and development. Children take part in two PE sessions each week and have opportunities to experience a wide range of sports and activities.

Specialist coaches and enrichment opportunities help children develop skills, teamwork and enjoyment of physical activity.

Assessment

Assessment is an important part of teaching and learning at The Pines. Teachers regularly assess children's understanding to celebrate success, identify next steps and provide support where needed.

Assessment helps ensure that all children make strong progress from their individual starting points.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Our curriculum is regularly reviewed by subject leaders and the Senior Leadership Team to ensure it remains ambitious, engaging and effective.

Monitoring activities such as learning walks, pupil voice, book reviews and assessment analysis help us continually improve the quality of education we provide.

The Impact of Our Curriculum

We are proud of the positive outcomes our curriculum achieves for children at The Pines.

Our pupils:

- Make good progress from their starting points
- Enjoy coming to school and engage positively with learning
- Develop resilience, independence and confidence
- Speak enthusiastically about their learning
- Apply their knowledge and skills across subjects
- Are well prepared for the next stage of education and life beyond school

At The Pines, we aim to provide a curriculum that not only supports academic success, but also helps children grow into thoughtful, creative and compassionate individuals who are ready to thrive in the future.