

Curriculum Intent



Our curriculum is the substance of what we teach. The curriculum shapes and determines what pupils will get out of their education experience at Acomb First School. Our school is a true community school with a warmth that permeates the whole building. The family ethos of our school is our great advantage and it lies in the heart of our mixed age classes.

Our curriculum is carefully designed, planned and organised to meet the ever-changing dynamics of our three classes. The uniqueness of every child is recognised and valued. As such, our curriculum embraces opportunities to support pupils to become thoughtful, motivated, collaborative and innovative learners, capable of engaging in their own lifelong learning journey and thriving in a world of constant change. We want every child to feel valued and experience success in a wide range of curriculum areas. Through the curriculum we can impact on how children feel about themselves, so that they become resilient and confident learners.

At Acomb, our definition of progress is the widening and deepening of essential knowledge, skills, understanding and learning behaviours. We design, organise and sequence our mixed age curriculum to ensure that children are not merely covering content but achieving a depth to their learning which enables them to use their skills and understanding in all areas of the curriculum.

We want our children to remember important information so that they can use this and apply it to many different situations. One of the best ways to promote long-lasting learning is to have students retrieve key concepts from memory. Importantly, these retrieval-based learning activities improve learning more than other activities that do not require retrieval.

We also provide opportunities for all children to embed their knowledge and share their learning experiences from home through our home school platform Tapestry. This also enable parents and carers to be an active part in their child's learning journey.

Our careful curriculum sequencing means that we build in opportunities to revisit previous learning, which allows children to build on their prior knowledge and gradually develop a deeper understanding of the skills and processes within subjects at their own pace and in the best possible way for each individual child.

Careful analysis and discussion about our pupils' backgrounds, life experiences and culture has helped us to design a curriculum intent that meet the needs of all learners so our children will be ready to successfully meet the challenges of the next stage of their education and their lives.