

Exciting News



St Bees School Prep. Department will be opening a new class for children in Reception and Year 1 from September 2010. We will be calling our new class the 'Beehive' as we know it will be hive of happy activity!



Class sizes are initially likely to be small (10 or fewer children per class) so provision will be tailored to the needs and abilities of individual children.

EYFS Curriculum



The curriculum for Reception Goals of:

Year will cover the six Early Learning



- Personal, Social and Emotional Development;
- Communication, Language and Literacy;
- Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy;



- Knowledge and Understanding of the World;
- Physical Development;
 - Creative Development.



All these areas will be delivered through planned, purposeful play, with a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

At St Bees, our small classes and personalised approach means that it is easy for children to discover their strengths and build upon their areas of development and to gain a positive approach to human interactions.



Children become part of a family that treats all its members with respect. In EYFS, our children will begin this journey, learning how to get on with each other, gaining the skills necessary for flourishing in the classroom and at play, thanks to positive role models and clear guidance about how to work and play with each other. Children will be given praise and recognition for positive efforts and be encouraged to see themselves as special.



Communication, Language and Literacy

Children will be supported in developing their spoken communication skills, primarily through play-based activities (role-play, exploratory play etc) and to extend their confidence and competence in communicating in a range of situations.



Children will develop a familiarity and a love for books and reading, by for example, being read to, discussing books and taking part in activities inspired by books. They will begin to read and write using the Jolly Phonics programme for Synthetic Phonics.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy



Children will begin to develop their numeracy ability as well as their ability to solve problems and reason. A wide range of opportunities will be made available for them to develop their skills and an enthusiasm for this type of activity, through adult- and child- initiated activities, both indoors and out. Children will also be supported in developing their ability to use the relevant language.



Knowledge and Understanding of the World



St. Bees has the advantage of an outstanding natural environment. Surrounded by fields, woodland, and in close proximity to the beach and the Lake District, children will have the opportunity to observe and explore their local environment extensively and learn about the scenery, plants and animals that surround them.

As the school accepts children up to 18, the younger children will also have the opportunity to learn from the skills and talents of older students. Children will learn about other cultures and countries in part thanks to the school's international intake (ie Chinese students teaching about Chinese New Year) and thanks to our partnership with a school in Cherbourg, France, with whom we exchange information and letters. Children will learn to use a range of tools and materials appropriate to their age range.



Physical Development



Children will be given constant opportunities to be active and improve their physical skills, through a range of opportunities. Their fine motor skills will be developed primarily but not exclusively in the classroom, through writing, drawing and manipulating a range of materials and apparatus. Gross motor skills will be developed through structured play, dance and sport-based activities. Our fortunate location will give children plenty of opportunity to use their senses and improve their ability to interpret what they see, hear and feel.



Creative Development

Children will be encouraged to explore their physical and social worlds, and to negotiate their way through these worlds successfully, through adult- and child-initiated activities. They will learn to express themselves, understand others' feelings to question the world around them and to develop their imaginative and interpersonal skills through, for example, discussion and interaction, art, books, exploration of the natural environment, music, role-play and drama.



EYFS Assessment

Assessment will also be in line with Maintained Schools. Throughout their EYFS year at St Bees, children will be observed and assessed by their teacher who will record observations in all six areas of Learning and



Development against the 13 Assessment Scales set out in the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage*. This will make up their EYFS Profile which will then provide their Year 1



teacher with an Assessment Baseline as they move into Key Stage

Key Stage 1 Curriculum and Assessment

Maths



All strands of the Primary Framework for Mathematics will be covered. Subject to individual needs and abilities, children will all be supported towards meeting the appropriate Learning Objectives for their age group. Individual support will mean that the more and less able alike are challenged to stretch themselves and develop their mathematical competence. Opportunities

for developing numeracy skills will be embedded within the curriculum.



Literacy

All strands of the Primary Framework for Literacy will be covered. Subject to individual needs and abilities, children will all be supported towards meeting the appropriate Learning Objectives for their age group. Opportunities for developing literacy skills will be embedded within the curriculum.



ICT

St Bees School has excellent ICT facilities. Children will have ICT lessons, to give them the requisite skills to use ICT as a tool to further their learning across the curriculum and to become independent and confident users of technology. ICT will be, wherever possible, integrated into the curriculum.

Science

The QCA/DCSF schemes of work for Years 1 and 2 will be covered.



As children will be taught in a mixed age class, our programme of work will cover all units on a two-year rolling programme, although many units may be combined as appropriate.



History/ Geography

We will follow a topic-based approach based upon QCA/ DCSF schemes of work. Half-termly topics will enable children to gain an understanding of key skills, historical eras and the world around them.



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Music

The QCA/DCSF schemes of work for Years 1 and 2 will be covered in a fun and lively way ensuring a hands on approach.



Art/ Design and Technology



Our curriculum will draw from the QCA/DCSF schemes of work for Years 1 and 2. An integrated approach means children's capabilities in these subjects will be supported and developed in other lessons including for example topic and science lessons.

PE

We will aim to provide an hour per day of physical activities for children in KS1. Children will be introduced to a range of sports, dance and be given opportunities to become fit, active and co-ordinated.



French



Children will receive weekly French lessons that will aim to get them started

communicating confidently in French and learning about the French culture.

Religious Education

Children will primarily start to learn about, the Christian religion. Children will also be introduced to other major religions.



Our Aim

We aim to find areas in which each child can succeed, thereby developing the self-confidence and self-esteem that will help them achieve their potential. This approach will add tremendous value to children's education, not just academically but also in their personal development.

