



Year 1

Intent

At Hunningley Primary Academy, we believe that Year 1 is a crucial transition year in which children build upon the strong foundations established in the Early Years whilst developing the knowledge, skills and learning behaviours required for future academic success. Our ambitious curriculum is designed to ensure that every child, regardless of starting point, background or need, experiences an inclusive, equitable and exceptional education that enables them to flourish.

Early Reading and Phonics are at the heart of our Year 1 curriculum. We recognise that reading is the gateway to all future learning and therefore prioritise the systematic teaching of phonics, reading fluency, language and vocabulary. We are committed to ensuring that every child develops the confidence and competence to become a successful reader through high-quality teaching, targeted support and early intervention. Particular attention is given to disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils, ensuring barriers to learning are identified and addressed swiftly so that every child can achieve success.

Alongside our academic curriculum, our Foundational Curriculum underpins all aspects of school life. We explicitly teach the habits, behaviours, routines and characteristics that enable children to become successful learners and positive members of our school community. Through this carefully planned approach, children develop independence, resilience, confidence, self-regulation and a sense of responsibility for their learning.

We are passionate about providing rich and meaningful experiences that develop children's cultural capital and broaden their understanding of the world. Through an ambitious knowledge-rich curriculum and our Education with Character offer, we ensure that children build secure knowledge, develop curiosity and begin to see themselves as capable, lifelong learners who can make a positive contribution to society.

Implementation

Our Year 1 curriculum is delivered through high-quality teaching rooted in direct instruction, clear explanations and carefully sequenced learning. New knowledge, vocabulary and skills are explicitly taught, practised and revisited to ensure children develop secure understanding and long-term retention. Teachers regularly check for understanding through skilful questioning, retrieval practice, observation and assessment, enabling misconceptions to be identified and addressed quickly.

Early Reading and Phonics form a central part of daily learning. Children participate in systematic phonics lessons that build progressively on prior knowledge and provide regular opportunities to apply their learning in reading and writing. Pupils read frequently with adults and engage with carefully matched texts that allow them to



practise and develop fluency, accuracy and comprehension. Additional support and intervention are provided promptly for any child requiring further consolidation.

Our Foundational Curriculum is embedded throughout the school day. Expectations are explicitly taught, modelled and practised, enabling children to develop the routines, behaviours and attitudes required for successful learning. Staff provide consistent support and guidance to ensure all pupils feel safe, valued and able to succeed.

Learning experiences are designed to be engaging, purposeful and inclusive. Teachers carefully adapt teaching to meet the needs of all learners, particularly those who are disadvantaged, vulnerable or have additional needs. Through educational visits, immersive experiences, high-quality texts and opportunities to engage with the wider community, children develop cultural capital and make meaningful connections between their learning and the world around them.

Strong partnerships with families support children's academic, social and emotional development, ensuring a shared commitment to every child's success.

Impact

As a result of our ambitious curriculum, children leave Year 1 as confident, enthusiastic and successful learners who are ready for the increasing demands of Key Stage One. They develop secure foundations in reading, writing and mathematics, alongside a broad body of knowledge that supports future learning across the curriculum.

Children make strong progress from their individual starting points because teaching is responsive, inclusive and supported by regular checks for understanding. Gaps in learning are identified early and addressed through targeted support, ensuring all pupils, including disadvantaged and vulnerable learners, achieve well.

By the end of Year 1, children are developing fluency and confidence as readers, possess an expanding vocabulary and are able to apply their knowledge across a range of contexts. They demonstrate the positive learning habits fostered through our Foundational Curriculum, including independence, resilience, responsibility and determination.

Our children develop the cultural capital, confidence and character needed to succeed not only in the next stage of their education but also in life beyond the classroom. They leave Year 1 as engaged learners who are curious about the world, proud of their achievements and fully prepared for the opportunities and challenges ahead.