

Curriculum Policy



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BARLBOROUGH HALL
EDUCATING MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS SINCE 1842

ISI Regulatory Code A3

Policy written by – C Chadbourne

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This Policy is for Barlborough Hall School

Linked Policies – Planning, Assessment and Recording, Teaching and Learning Promoting Fundamental British Values Policy, Academic Subject Policies, PSHEE Policy, Marking Policy, Special Educational Needs Policy, Gifted and Talented Policy, EAL Policy, Extra-Curricular Activities policy, Educational Visits Policy

Review date October 2017

BARLBOROUGH HALL SCHOOL
CURRICULUM POLICY

OUR VISION

As a Jesuit School we aim to follow Jesus and care for others. We want to:

1. Develop our talents, knowing each one of us is special in God's eyes.
2. Understand that God is always with us in good and bad times.
3. Love Truth.
4. Know ourselves so that we can understand others better.
5. Become more responsible for ourselves and for others.
6. Be fair and help those in need.
7. Be the person God wants us to be in all we do.

OUR AIMS

The Equality Act 2010

Barlborough Hall School Curriculum Policy follows the guidelines as set out in The Equality Act 2010.

Our PSHEE Policy encourages respect for others in line with the characteristics set out in The Equality Act 2010. Our curriculum including PSHEE, RE, extra-curricular and pastoral lessons all support the character attributes for future life. For example, developing resilience and independence. Our Literacy Policy outlines areas in which children can develop their speaking and listening skills to develop confidence and in readiness for future life. Examples of this include the Debating hobby, Class assemblies, Nativities and the Annual School play.

Promoting Fundamental British Values

Barlborough Hall School follows guidance on the teaching of Fundamental British Values. The school has a separate policy for this area. The children have the opportunity to discuss and learn about democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance with different faiths and beliefs during lessons. Our curriculum enables children to experience holding debates and having a democratic vote, for example.

EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Aims

From the beginning these are the aims we intend to foster as children move through the school:

To nurture the Jesuit tradition.

To help children achieve their full academic potential.

To help children find success and enjoyment across a wide spectrum of activity, both inside and outside the classroom.

To help children understand themselves and those around them.

To help children to be resourceful and confident.

To offer specialist teaching throughout the curriculum.

To offer excellence in teaching standards.

To provide a low pupil/teacher ratio.

To ensure a high profile for physical education.

To ensure a high profile for music.

To provide full coverage of the new National Curriculum 2014, whilst embellishing it teaching and learning that is unique to our school.

To nurture respect for the environment.

To provide pre-school care including a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

At Barlborough Hall School, our Year Groups are named according to the principles of a classical education.

Barlborough Hall School	Current equivalent	Age of children on 1st September
Nursery	Nursery	3 or 4
Pre-Prep III	Reception	4
Pre-Prep II	Year 1	5
Pre-Prep I	Year 2	6
Preparatory	Year 3	7
Elements III	Year 4	8
Elements II	Year 5	9
Elements I	Year 6	10

Pupils can join the nursery class at Barlborough Hall School at the start of term before their 3rd birthday, for a minimum of 2 full days/ 3 mornings up to full time, prior to transfer to Pre-Prep III. After Elements I, the majority transfer to our Senior school, Mount St Mary's College.

Introduction

- As part of our Ignatian philosophy, we believe in developing the talents of children academically, socially, spiritually and physically. As well as a strong emphasis on academic progress, pupils also enjoy a wide range of other educational experiences, through our sporting, music and activity programmes.
- The emphasis that the school places on the needs and progress of each child is reflected in the care with which the curriculum at all levels is planned and delivered. Children are taught a broad and rich curriculum in small classes, following the Curriculum 2014. Teachers use the Essentials on line curriculum to ensure coverage and to set learning objectives for Long, Short and Medium Term planning.
- We seek to develop in every young person, the values, skills and behaviours they need to get on in life.

- Lessons take place within a 30 period Monday to Friday framework for Upper School and a 25 period framework for Pre Prep and Foundation Stage. Most sporting fixtures are held on games afternoons, or on Saturday mornings.
- Pupils are taught in classes of 20 or fewer.
- Support is given to those with particular learning needs with specialist Dyslexia lessons available if required. Gifted and Talented children are placed on our special register and their needs met through differentiation and challenges within the curriculum.
- Same day intervention sessions allow teachers to address any gaps in learning or misconceptions, or to extend or consolidate learning for individuals. It also allows children time to reflect on their learning.
- We work closely with parents to ensure that children progress to their full ability. Reports are sent home twice annually. There are also three parents' evenings per year. Parents and teachers can make regular contact through comments in the Reading Record (Lower School), Homework Planner (Upper School) and email.
- Music is strongly promoted throughout the school. As well as being offered as a class subject, pupils can have individual lessons with specialist peripatetic teachers. There are several choirs, an orchestra and instrumental groups, all led by specialist teachers.

Nursery and Pre-Prep III (EYFS)

- The curriculum is based on the Early Learning Goals and covers Personal and Social Development, Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Physical Development and Creative Development.
- There is an emphasis on learning through play
- Teaching and learning is based on the Reggio approach with child centred learning at its centre.
- Children are given opportunities to develop and use their own home language in play and learning, to support their development at home and to ensure that they also have sufficient opportunities to learn and reach a good standard in the English Language.
- Children in Pre-Prep III are taught in two classes, approximately divided into pre- and post- February birthdays. This allows teachers to take account of the differing needs of older and younger children in this important first year of formal schooling.
- The children have specialist PE, Computing, Music, French, Swimming and Godly Play lessons. Swimming takes place on site in our own heated pool, once a week in PPIII and twice a week in Nursery.
- As well as their own stimulating environment, the Nursery children have access to the school's wider facilities. Attendance ranges from minimum two days to full time.

Pre-Preparatory II and I

- The curriculum for these two age groups is broad and balanced, based on the National Curriculum areas of study. With particular reference to linguistics, mathematical, scientific, technological, human, social, physical, aesthetic and creative understanding. Children are introduced to more formal schooling, for example having weekly spellings to learn.
- There is one mixed ability class in each year group. Children are mainly class based but have Computing, Music, Swimming, French, PE and Godly Play lessons taught by specialist teachers. Science is taught by a specialist teacher in Pre Prep I.
- PSHEE is covered in a timetabled lessons, and also within Science and RE.
- At the end of Pre-Preparatory I, the children sit Key Stage I SATS, which are used to inform parents and staff of pupils' progress and form part of individual tracking.

Upper School

- The broad curriculum continues, based on NC areas of study with particular reference to linguistics, mathematical, scientific, technological, human, social, physical, aesthetic and creative understanding. There is specialist teaching in Computing, Science, Music, Games, French and Godly Play.
- Pupils are introduced to traditional Preparatory school teaching. The children sit assessments in November and annual exams in May, introducing them to important study skills and easing them into the concept of formal assessment.
- At the end of Elements I, the children sit Key Stage 2 SATS, which are used to inform parents and staff of pupils' progress and form part of individual tracking.
- All pupils have a Physical Education programme which includes outdoor team games, individual skills, Gymnastics, Dance and Swimming.
- PSHEE is covered in a timetabled lessons and also within Science and RE.

The school has a Prefect of Studies and a Curriculum Development Team who oversee the Curriculum throughout school. Each area of the curriculum has a designated Curriculum Co-ordinator.

The Role of the Curriculum Co-ordinator

Co-ordinators will aim to:-

- a) Update their knowledge of their curriculum area; including reading, attending courses and reporting to the staff either through meetings or by feeding in greater expertise as and when appropriate.
- b) Lead the discussion and be responsible for the writing of school policy documents and revising them in the light of further experience.
- c) Be aware of various resources appropriate to curriculum area and oversee their effective deployment i.e. suggesting materials and books; building up, caring for and cataloguing resources. Guiding children in the use of the Library as a learning resource.
- d) Work with colleagues (if necessary teaching alongside), supporting needs of colleagues to encourage professional growth and competence, lead discussions groups and bring new ideas to the notice of the staff.
- e) Advise on school based INSET.
- f) Liaise with Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher and appropriate external agencies (e.g. advisers, governors, parents, staff in other schools, health visitors etc.)
- g) Make provision for all aspects of the National Curriculum in respect of this area.
- h) With Assessment Co-ordinator oversee the record-keeping and assessment policy in respect of the subject areas.
- i) Discuss with colleagues their long term/short term planning in respect of their curriculum areas thereby acting as consultants as and when required.
- j) Lead colleagues in the preparation and review of Schemes of Work and monitor effectiveness in a 2 yearly cycle.
- k) Be responsible for own curriculum budget.
- l) Liaise with The Prefect of Studies and Key Stage 2 Coordinator to review, monitor, and deliver INSET in relation to their subject area. This takes place annually and our evaluation and monitoring of the effectiveness of the curriculum leads the developments for each academic year in line with the SDP and the aims of the school.
- m) To contribute to the School Development Plan

We acknowledge that certain aspects of the co-ordinator's role are dependent upon the availability of funds from the school budgets to release individual teachers to fulfil their responsibilities. When areas are targeted in the School Development Plan they will be given priority of time and money resources.

Progress and Attainment

We have systems in place to ensure coverage of the National Curriculum and to ensure that children are making progress, in relation to their age and ability, in line with National Expectations. (See Assessment and Reporting Policy and Teaching and Learning Policy)

Monitoring and Review:

This policy will be subject to continuous monitoring, refinement and audit by the head teacher and Prefect of studies.

The Deputy Head along with Curriculum team coordinators is responsible for the day to day organisation of the curriculum. They monitor and review long-term and medium-term plans for all teachers, ensuring that all classes are taught the requirements of the courses and that all lessons have appropriate learning objectives and teaching strategies.

The prefect of studies will undertake an annual formal review of this policy for the purpose of monitoring the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged, by no later than one year from the date shown below, or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

Breakdown of the Curriculum

Breakdown of Curriculum Teaching in Key Stage One and Foundation Stage

Subject	Nursery	Pre Prep III	Pre Prep II	Pre Prep I
English	5	5	5	5
Maths	5	5	5	5
Science	1	1	1	1
RE	1	1	1	1
ICT	1	1	1	1
History	1	1	1	1
Geography	1	1	1	1
French	0.5	1	1	1
Music	0.5	1	1	1
Pastoral	1	1	1	1
Swimming	2	1	1	1
Games	0	0	0	0
PE	1	1	1	1
Art/Tech	1	1	1	1
SDI	5	5	5	5
Total	25	25	25	25

Breakdown of Curriculum Teaching in Key Stage Two

Subject	Preparatory	Elements III	Elements II	Elements I
English	5	5	5	5
Maths	5	5	5	5
Science	2	2	2	2
RE	2	2	2	2
ICT	1	1	1	1
History	1	1	1	1
Geography	1	1	1	1
French	1	1	1	1
Music	1	1	1	1
Pastoral	1	1	0	0
PHSEE	1	1	1	1
Swimming	1	1	1	1
Games	2	2	2	2
PE	1	1	1	1
Art/Tech	1	1	1	1
SDI	5	5	5	5
Total	30	30	30	30

