

Causeway Green's rationale for changes to the curriculum- post school closure

This document is to read in conjunction with our curriculum rationale

- To support pupils after the coronavirus absence. We need to recognise what has happened and the potential attachment issues for our younger children. We cannot move straight into the curriculum, we need to find balance and accept what has happened.
- Mental health and well-being will be a priority for our children along with rebuilding their relationships with staff and peers.
- Basic transferable skills will be prioritised and our broad and balanced curriculum will continue.
- Mastery maths approach has been introduced- this always includes the re-visiting of the previous years work. This will support the pupils in catching up on missed learning.
- The last three weeks of Spring term will be focused on the following:
 - Week 1: Routines/ Nurture/Basic skills
 - Weeks 2 and 3: Basic skills/ informal quizzes to assess gaps in knowledge in order to amend planning for the Catch Up curriculum
- Phonics teaching for Reception and Year 1 will begin immediately with a focus on revision of the phase being taught during lockdown before moving on. These sessions will form part of English lessons/ guided reading sessions and will use our high quality phonics based texts during this period. Staff will also have the use of 'phonics friendly big books' to share with pupils, enabling them to model blending and segmenting. Teachers will plan for additional phonics activities to be incorporated into their English lessons. Support staff will prioritise reading and phonics catch up activities during the afternoons every day.
- As we teach a skills-based curriculum we are able to transfer skills from one year group to another. In order to cover the context of the subject which children have missed, for example 'London's Burning' Teachers will carry over the high quality texts based on these subjects as part of their daily reading to their classes. Some topics from the summer term 2020 and spring 2021 will not be taught explicitly, instead the skills will be transferred to Summer 2021 or Autumn 2021.
- We will be ensuring that the teaching that takes place is as powerful as it possibly can be.
- We recognise that Science will need to be caught up as some topics and skills will not be taught until potentially the next key stage. Where this has been the case we have moved those topics into the next year group.
- Aspects of SRHE will be taught in the Summer term as planned and will need to review the content from the previous year which may have been missed. Year 3 and Y4 teachers in particular will need to check back on the resources used in the previous year.

- Assessment processes have been altered in order to have a clear baseline of pupil's knowledge and understanding through the use of informal quizzes and assessments. This will take place during the last 3 weeks of Spring term in order for pupils to settle back into school whilst we focus on their well-being and mental health. Then formal assessments will take place around Summer half term.
- In EYFS Weeks 2 and 3 will be used to carry out observational assessments to identify gaps in learning.
- Christmas activities will be scaled down due to the increased risk of infection which will enable more teaching time for pupils.
- Singing will be taking place in Spring and Summer term with additional procedures in place (see risk assessment).
- Swimming sessions will not be able to follow our usual termly organisation due to pools not being open. Swimming is planned to recommence in September 2021 if restrictions allow. This will be for Y2, Y5 and Y6.
- We will have a reduced curriculum enrichment programme for the academic year 2021-22. In the first instance this will be reduced down to an additional focus on 'Happy, healthy me', Anti-bullying week, Online safety focus weeks, Science and STEM week, British Values week and World Book week.

We will continue with our monthly themed 'inspirational people of the month' assembly to highlight the work of important people in history and of the modern world as soon as the staggered day has finished and more time is made available. There will also be a continuation of the 'Growth mindset book of the month' to ensure that pupils remember that they have the possibility to be whomever they would like and to reach their dreams if they work hard enough.

- The Causeway Green retrieval booklet will be used from Week 2 of the return to school in March to ensure that pupils have adequate opportunities to retrieve key facts and knowledge but also to follow up and gaps in knowledge. This is a booklet which includes questions from Nursery- Year 6 in every subject that we teach.

This rationale has been written in conjunction with guidance from the most recent research and robust evidence from the following sources:

'Build back better', Professor John Hattie, June 2020

'Balancing the curriculum'. Mary Myatt, June 2020

'The recovery curriculum', The National College, June 2020

'A resilience and coping framework for supporting transitions back to school' The British Psychological society, July 2020

Governor Approved:

Date Approved: March 2021