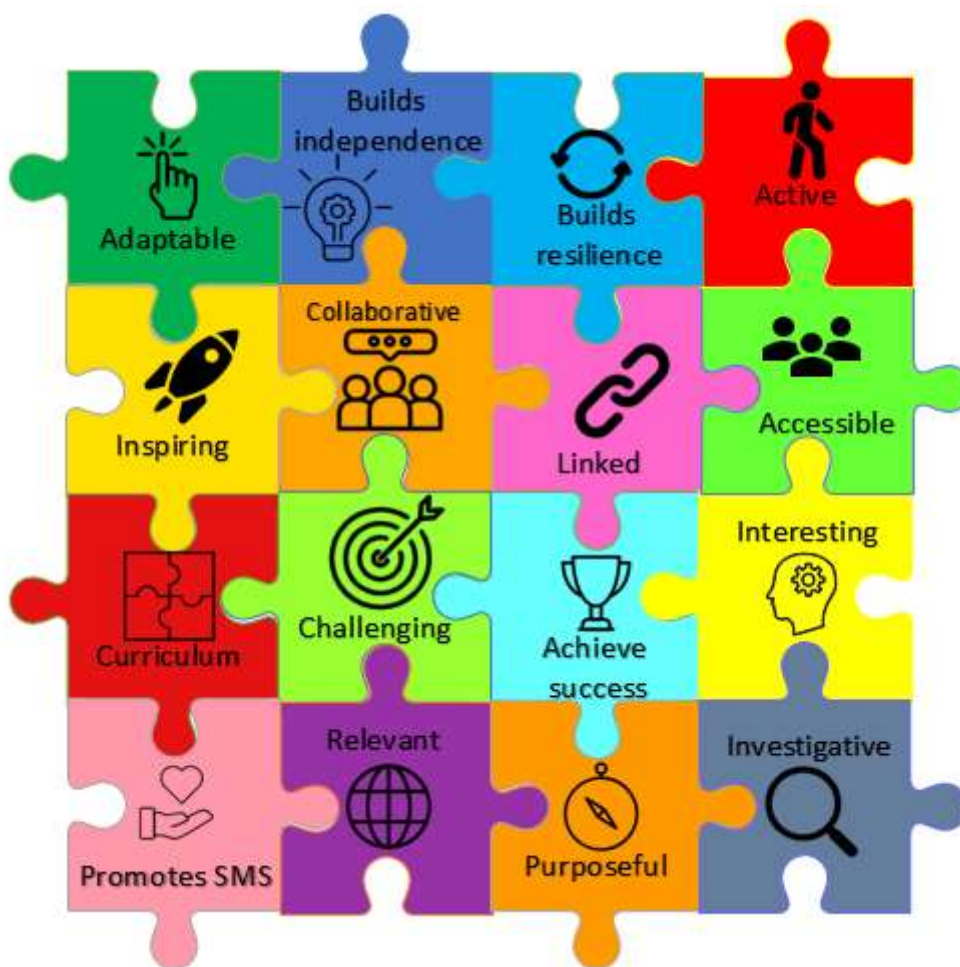


## Harrison Primary School Curriculum Policy



Our vision of **'lifelong learners, open minds'** is at the forefront of every decision we make for our curriculum; we believe that all children are entitled to a rich, relevant curriculum. Each step on our Harrison learning journey here must build our children's cultural capital to help them be successful adults.

Our vision is deeply embedded within the school culture; the ethos of which is based on the UNICEF Convention on the Rights of The Child.

The 'Harrison Learning Tree' underpins all we do – our focus on Citizenship, Attitudes to learning, Responsibility and Excellence, provides a structure by which children and staff can understand themselves as learners and become more responsible for their attitudes and behaviour. We expect all aspects of our curriculum to be underpinned by these four elements.

Our Values: Collaboration, Honesty, Equality, Respect and Responsibility are shared by the whole community and are promoted by the content of the curriculum.

We have the highest expectation for all of our children to feel valued and to achieve. The first key driver for our curriculum is our children, our unique setting. We have reflected upon what content is meaningful to our children, taking into account our local area and community.

The increasing diversity of our intake, the strong maritime history of Portsmouth, Fareham and Gosport and the demographics of our area, related to employment opportunities and children's life chances, influence every decision we make about the content of our curriculum.

While we follow the National Curriculum we strive to make the learning at Harrison relevant to our community and ambitious for our learners. Our curriculum is both broad and balanced with clear progressions of knowledge, skills and understanding and deliberate connections made between concepts. This gives children

the opportunity to develop meta-cognitive skills so that they understand what they are learning, how it relates to what they have learned before and will learn in the future.

Ensuring excellence for all pupils in the core subjects of English and mathematics are key to success; exposure to high quality literature is central to our curriculum; ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to become competent speakers, writers and communicators.

Our fundamental aim is to provide all children with outstanding learning opportunities which balance academic learning with children's social and emotional development so that they become global citizens and build the foundations for their futures.

We have a strong culture and ethos where it is important that we develop children's attitudes and dispositions rather than simply teaching them knowledge. We want our children to learn to understand and empathise with people who are different and similar to themselves. We will teach children to learn to discuss their ideas and speak appropriately for themselves, and others, to challenge stereotypes and become resilient individuals.

We are determined to develop children's motivation to learn by selecting stimuli and topics that engage and inspire them to learn. Our curriculum aims to widen pupil's horizons and open the door to the world beyond their classrooms and their own communities by giving them the opportunities to discover and explore.

We passionately believe in the power of play and learning outside. Time spent outdoors engaged in nature, and in social interaction with peers, benefits our children's ability to learn in the classroom and improves their mental health and wellbeing. As a result, high quality outdoor sport and play, and the use of our environment for learning wherever possible, is a cornerstone of our curriculum. Children's learning is enriched by working within our local area, community and educational visits. We believe that these opportunities will enhance pupils' social and cultural understanding.

Our Religious Education and collective worship follow Hampshire County Council's "Living Difference III" guidance; we aim to educate our children to develop reflective approaches; we promote respect, understanding and tolerance for others. Our children learn to explore their own beliefs, values and identities and we encourage them to be interested in, and engage with, other peoples' beliefs and faiths, thus developing their moral compass and spiritual awareness.

In their time at Harrison Primary School children learn how to make decisions, challenge themselves, solve problems, understand their emotions, exert self-control, and make friends. Ultimately our aim is for them to experience joy, both through work and play, and to build memories that will last for their whole lives.

*Members of the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body's Learning & Teaching Committee will oversee the implementation of this policy.*

**January 2022**