



The Mount Junior School Curriculum Policy

This policy applies to all pupils in the Junior School, and includes details of the curriculum provided in our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's EYFS Policy and PSHE policy.

Rational

The Junior School curriculum is designed to provide all pupils with a foundation of skills, knowledge and attitudes which will enable them to thrive and be individually successful now and in the future. Our ethos, Quaker origins, broad curriculum and pastoral care provide the structure within which our pupils can develop the confidence and independence to question, cultivate and articulate their own opinions and ideas.

Our curriculum aims to develop the values, skills and behaviours pupils need for the future. Through lessons, the 'Global Thinking' programme and numerous extra-curricular activities, we aim to develop a range of character attributes, such as resilience, which underpin success in British society and the wider world.

Our Curriculum aims to:

- encourage and stimulate the best possible progress and the highest attainment for all pupils;
- equip pupils with essential skills in literacy, speaking and listening, numeracy, computing and information technology and the ability to enquire and make connections across areas of learning;
- build on pupils' strengths and interests and develop confidence in their own capacity to learn and work both independently and collaboratively;
- enable pupils to think creatively and critically, and to solve problems;
- promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development including awareness and understanding of British values;
- develop pupils' physical skills and encourage them to recognise the importance of pursuing a healthy lifestyle and keeping themselves and others safe.

Our school aims underpin all we do and ensure that we are faithful to our Quaker origins and ethos. As a Quaker Foundation our school aims to:

- **Ensure pupils respect and value every individual** so our curriculum promotes co-operation, respect and diversity and is relevant and stimulating.
- **Enable pupils to feel they have the freedom to flourish in a calm and caring community** so our curriculum is delivered by staff who understand and support the pastoral growth of individuals and our Junior School learning expectations are valued by all.
- **Inspire pupils to strive for personal excellence** so our curriculum is broad, progressive and challenging and it promotes imagination, problem solving, independent thinking and digital literacy.
- **Challenge pupils to think and live adventurously** so our curriculum is designed to stimulate creativity and actively encourage pupils to be ambitious, courageous and to express themselves and their ideas in new ways.
- **Empower pupils to make a positive contribution to our changing world** so our curriculum builds transferable life skills and promotes pupil voice.

Date of last review: September 2024
Date of next review: September 2025
Reviewed by: Head of Junior School

Access to Learning

The age, aptitudes and needs of all learners are taken into account and the curriculum is adapted to suit the needs of each individual as appropriate. Teaching Assistants offer additional in-class support where needed and run intervention groups. Adaptations are made for those pupils with identified SEND, pupils for whom English is an additional language and for more able pupils. Pastoral support (1:1 or small group) may also be available where a pupil has emotional or social needs. Where a pupil has an Education, Health and Care Plan, we aim to provide education which fulfils their requirements. Progress of all pupils is closely monitored and action plans reviewed to ensure that all pupils are able to make good progress.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The seven areas of learning and development are equally important and interdependent and this is reflected in our planning for both adult-led and child-initiated learning.

The three prime areas are crucial to develop lifelong learning and to help pupils form relationships.

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

The prime areas are strengthened and applied through four specific areas.

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

Detailed information on our EYFS provision is available in the EYFS policy.

Key Stage 1 and 2

Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum, but is broader than and goes well beyond, statutory requirements. Our pupils are encouraged to take an active part in their lessons, express opinions, ask questions and develop a positive attitude to learning. The curriculum builds transferable life skills such as communication, critical thinking, self-awareness and leadership skills.

Pupils study the following subjects;

English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Global Thinking (inc R.E), PHSE, Music, P.E, MFL, Computing, Art, DT and Outdoor Education.

Core subjects and PSHE are taught discreetly from Year 1 and delivered by the class teachers. Science, Geography, History, Art and DT are taught through our Explore, Discover, Create Curriculum.

Explore, Discover, Create (EDC)

Our EDC creative curriculum is planned in a series of termly or half termly topic-based themes which are firmly rooted upon a set of skills that are progressive. This creative curriculum approach ensures teaching and learning supports pupils' natural curiosity and stimulates their creativity. It offers pupils the opportunity to work in depth, giving them the time they need to reflect, consolidate and transfer their learning. The topics encompass Humanities, Science and the Arts and also make use of our location in an area which is rich in historical and geographic interest. 'Wow' factors, hands on experiences, open ended tasks, curriculum visits and themed days are an exciting part of our Creative Curriculum approach. Digital competency is developed within all curriculum areas and is therefore at the forefront of our minds when we consider how we teach and deliver lessons as well as how we record and communicate. During our EDC curriculum the pupils may work in mixed groups or year groups. As our curriculum is theme based, not all subjects are covered every half term.

Specialist Teaching

We use subject specialist teachers to develop the pupils' skills and knowledge in the following subjects;

Music	Early Year to Year 6
Gym, Dance and Swimming	Reception to Year 6
Games and Outdoor Education	Early Years to Year 6
French	Early Years to Year 6
German	Year 3 to Year 6

PSHE

PSHE is taught as a discreet subject by the class teacher each week and it embodies the recommended teaching programmes from the PSHE Association. PSHE offers learning opportunities across the curriculum and as well as discreet lessons and it forms an integral part of assemblies, circle time and any group projects designed to enrich pupils' experiences- See PSHE Policy.

Global Thinking

Our Global Thinking curriculum enhances and supports the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils in Year 1-6. Through Global Thinking we deliver our Religious Education (RE) programme of work, which develops the pupils' understanding of the world's religions by learning about different religions and their traditions, practices and beliefs. The Global Thinking curriculum includes Junior PeaceJam lessons in Key Stage 2. The PeaceJam curriculum focuses on the life and work of Nobel Peace Prize winners, introducing pupils to these role models for peace and positive action. Pupils explore their character traits such as kindness, courage, responsibility, collaboration and how each of us can make a difference. Pupils also develop an understanding of spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through our curriculum, extra curricular activities and other opportunities.

Fundamental British Values

Fundamental British Values are embedded into our curriculum, assemblies, and enrichment activities. We actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Enrichment Activities

The core and foundation subjects are enhanced by the provision of a variety of enrichment activities and educational visits that take them further afield and foster a curiosity about the world.

All pupils from Pre-School to Year 6 have the opportunity to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities.

Appendices:

- a. Junior School Curriculum Areas
- b. Junior School Curriculum Period Allocation
- c. Structure of the School Day

Appendices

a. Junior School Curriculum Areas

Curriculum Areas for Key Stage 1 and 2
<p>Linguistic</p> <p>English is a core subject. French is taught from Year 1 to Year 6. German is taught from Year 3 to 6. Extra Curricular Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandarin club for Year 3-6. • Creating Writing (Year 5 & 6)
<p>Mathematical</p> <p>Mathematics is a core subject.</p>
<p>Scientific</p> <p>Science is a core subject and is taught as part of our thematic 'Explore, Discover, Create (EDC) curriculum. Extra Curricular Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Investigators for Year 3 to 6 • Baking for Year 3 to 6
<p>Technological</p> <p>Design Technology is taught through our thematic Explore, Discover, Create curriculum. Computing is a core subject. Digital literacy and competency is developed throughout the curriculum Extra curricular Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code Club for Year 3 to 6 • Robotics for Year 3 to 6
<p>Human and Social</p> <p>History and Geography are taught through our Explore, Discover, Create curriculum. 'Global Thinking' is taught from Year 1 to Year 6, which includes Religious Education and PeaceJam Lessons. Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE) is taught from Year 1 to Year 6. Extra Curricular Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-Being Club – Year 1 to 4
<p>Physical</p> <p>Sport is taught through weekly lessons in Outdoor Education, Gym, Games, Dance and Swimming. Key Stage 2 take part in an annual outdoor adventure residential visit. Pupils compete competitively with other Independent Schools. The school is a member of York School's Sport Network and pupils from Year 1 take part in sport festivals, training days and competitions with local state schools. Extra Curricular Activities: Ballet – Year 1 & 2 Fun Swim – Year 1 to 3 Leeds Rhinos Netball Training – Year 3 to 6 City of York Football Training – Year 1 to 3 Squad Swim Team – Year 3 to 6 Tennis Coaching – Year 1 to 6</p>

Aesthetic and Creative

Art is taught as part of our Explore, Discover, Create curriculum.
 Music is taught as a dedicated lesson by a specialist teacher.
 Group LAMDA lessons – Year 3 to 6
 Individual Music Lessons available and Associated Board Music Examinations awarded.
 Annual Junior School Production.
 Extra Curricular Activities:

- Musical Production
- Orchestra
- String Group
- Beat it, Drumming
- Crafting for Charity

Careers

Within the Global Thinking and PHSE Curriculum (including assemblies) pupils are given the opportunity to learn about jobs, roles and responsibilities in the school and beyond.

b. Weekly Period Allocation based on 30 minute periods.

Subject	Reception	Year 1 & 2	Year 3 & 4	Year 5 & 6
English		10	10	10
Maths		10	10	10
Explore, Discover, Create (EDC) Science/Geography/History/Art/DT		7	7	7
Music	1	2	3	3
Sport	4	4	5	5
Languages	2	2	2	2
Computing		2	2	2
Outdoor Ed	4	4	2	2
Global Thinking		2	2	2
PSHE/ASSEMBLIES	5	5	5	5

c. Structure of the Day

	Junior School
7.30	Breakfast Club
8.30	Gates Open & Morning Registration
8.45	Assembly or Form Time
9.00	Lesson Time
10.30	Morning Break

11.00	Lesson time
12.00	Lunch Time
13.00	Afternoon Registration
13.15	Lesson time
14.15	Afternoon Break
14.30	Lesson Time
15.30	End of day – Activities and After School Care start
17.30	ASC ends for EYFS Late Session, including Supper for Year 1 to 6
18.30	After School Care End