

# Basic Skills Policy Statement



## **Introduction**

At Bridgewater our policies are regularly reviewed. This reflects current practice within school and all related government guidance and statutory requirements.

## **Rationale**

At Bridgewater Primary, we recognise that every child has an entitlement to the basic skills of literacy and numeracy as part of their curriculum opportunity. Basic skills are an essential foundation for anyone who wants to achieve in the workplace, or take advantage of wider leisure opportunities.

## **Objectives**

- To enable all children to access all areas of the curriculum.
- To identify areas for development for all children in the basic skills, and intervene selectively to raise standards of attainment for pupils at risk of underachievement.
- To enable children to communicate effectively with others.
- To prepare children to meet the challenges of everyday life.
- To foster an enjoyment of numeracy and literacy.
- To provide a grounding for lifelong learning.
- To enable children to have the necessary skills to have confidence in themselves and in their ability to integrate as a valued member of society.
- To strive for the maximum number of children achieving at or beyond the national expectation in English and Maths in the statutory tests in Years 2 and 6.

## **Guidelines**

- Basic skills will be taught to all children at Bridgewater Primary on a daily basis.
- The English and Maths curriculum will be used to develop basic skills. English and Maths policies will be followed within school, and plans for both subjects will be included on an annual basis in the School Improvement Plan.
- Individual, group and whole-school targets will be set in the basic skills in consultation with children, and these targets will be communicated to parents through both formal and informal means. Children's attainment in the basic skills will be tracked and updated on an annual basis.

- We will identify children who underachieve, using standardised information and teacher assessment, so that intervention and individual education improvement programmes can be targeted at these children to raise standards in the basic skills.
- An annual report will inform parents on their child's progress in the basic skills
- Opportunities will be provided for children to develop and apply basic skills through all areas of the curriculum.

### **Conclusion**

We strive to provide each child with a firm foundation in the basic skills, to enable them to access other areas of the curriculum, and prepare them to take their place in a literate and numerate society.

### **Monitoring**

The School achieved the Basic Skills Quality Mark for the second time in the Autumn term 2013 and will need to renew every three years. Monitoring of basic skills takes place weekly and is a key component of the monitoring cycle. The Achievement Partner, Governors, Coordinators & Senior Leadership Team are involved in monitoring these areas regularly.

Reviewed - Autumn 2016

Next review - Autumn 2019