

OUR SCHOOL VISION

Barns Green Primary School

Our Values are:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Perseverance
- Compassion
- Community
- Inclusion

Our Vision is:

Promoting independent thought and learning

Providing a broad-based education

Respecting individuality and difference

Emphasising the importance of team work

Nurturing physical health, emotional security and spiritual richness

Our pupils will learn to become self-confident, enthusiastic, resilient and tolerant.

2018

BARNS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Teaching and Learning Policy

What is the purpose of our policy?

The purpose of our policy is to ensure pupils' learning is developed continuously and progressively to a high standard. Within this policy we intend to set the context for all other curriculum policies and in doing so provide a clear statement of the practice which will help us achieve our whole school aims. It will also enable teachers to reflect on their work in an informed way and it is an essential tool for informing governors and parents about the ethos of the teaching and learning at Barns Green Primary School.

At Barns Green Primary School we believe children learn best ...

- When there is a positive atmosphere throughout the school
- When they are happy and secure
- When they feel valued
- When they are motivated and stimulated
- Through practical, first hand experiences
- Through an investigative approach
- Through creative and imaginative expression
- When they make full use of their environment
- When given opportunities for independent learning
- When given opportunities to work collaboratively
- When there are clear, achievable goals
- When given opportunities to practise and reinforce previously learned skills in appropriate situations
- When all children have equal opportunities
- When there is consistency in the teaching
- When teachers have high expectations
- When parents are actively engaged in the learning



... then this will reflect in the children's progress from their starting points.

At Barns Green Primary School we believe teachers teach best ...

- When work is thoroughly planned to meet the needs of the children and provides for the full ability range of the class, group and individual
- When children have opportunities for first-hand experiences and are encouraged to use their local environment
- When there is a stimulating, positive, happy atmosphere within the classroom
- When the classroom is well managed and organised
- When children and staff are given time to think and learn deeply
- When there is good communication and teamwork among all teaching and support staff

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Review in
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Teaching and Learning Policy

- When children and staff feel supported
- When there are regular opportunities for CPD
- When staff are encouraged in their endeavours and have a positive attitude towards their own work
- When children are given a broad and balanced range of activities to ensure a curriculum relevant to their needs
- When the chosen themes for cross-curricular learning are interesting and challenging
- When there is a good supply of high quality, readily available resources
- When regular assessments (observations and records) are made to inform class teaching and future planning
- When parents are actively involved in children's education
- When staff are trusted by parents and governors

These beliefs are reflected in the vision and values of our school...



What are we doing at Barns Green Primary School to promote excellent teaching and learning?

At Barns Green Primary School, we believe that teaching and learning is a strength of the school.

1. The Learning Environment

Date approved: 11 January 2021	Review in July 2024
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Together we work to create and maintain a stimulating, organised and supportive learning environment. We believe that this impacts upon the quality of teaching and learning that takes place.

In the School environment, if resources are ...

- Accessible to children and staff
- Appropriate and available
- The right quality for the task
- Sufficient in range to allow children to make appropriate choices
- Respected by children and staff
- Used correctly
- Easily organised and checked



...then teaching for learning becomes more effective and enjoyable.

In the School environment, if space is...

- Used flexibly
- Used to facilitate group/individual/class arrangements
- Used to allow efficient movement/circulation
- Organised for effective use including within the classroom, in work spaces and on table tops
- Monitored for effective use



... then teaching for learning becomes more effective and enjoyable.

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In the School environment, if the organisation of pupils, staff and work is...

- Purposeful
- Provides an atmosphere that is sensitive and welcoming
- Sets consistent expectations across the school
- Builds upon pupils' experience ...

...then teaching for learning becomes more effective and enjoyable.

In the School environment, if displays are used to...

- Celebrate children's work
- Stimulate and motivate
- Model high expectations
- Show a range of abilities
- Scaffold learning
- Share responsibility for communal areas
- Make good use of all available space

...then teaching for learning becomes more effective and enjoyable.

2. Attitudes and behaviours

At Barns Green Primary School, we work hard to develop a positive and supportive learning culture. We believe that the attitudes and behaviour of both staff and children are an important part of whole school life. It is vital that we promote positive attitudes and behaviour and insist that we work together to make everybody feel valued and respected within the school.

Children's Attitudes

We believe that children learn most effectively when they are....

- Invested in our school values
- Self-motivated
- Confident
- Secure – personally and socially
- Receptive
- Interested
- Socially responsible
- Focused
- Positive
- Willing



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Review in
July 2024

BARNS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Teaching and Learning Policy

- Respected
- Happy

Children's Behaviour

We believe that children learn most effectively when they ...

- Feel safe
- Achieve success
- Manage their own behaviour
- Reflect and evaluate
- Communicate
- Listen
- Observe carefully and accurately
- Collaborate
- Persevere and focus
- Investigate
- Problem solve
- Understand
- Experience choice (approaches, skills, resources)
- Organise
- Work independently
- Hypothesise
- Apply previous learning and experience to new situations
- Follow instructions
- Use a range of study skills

Teachers' Attitudes and Behaviours

In order to achieve the above, we believe that it is important that all staff exhibit the following qualities and are...

- Smiley and encouraging
- Enthusiastic and interesting
- Interested
- Able to inspire confidence
- Keen to value contributions
- Positive
- Well planned and organised
- Good listeners
- Understanding
- Flexible and purposeful
- Excellent time managers



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Review in
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BARNS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Teaching and Learning Policy

- Professional
- Knowledgeable
- Fair, consistent and honest

This ensures that children learn effectively and staff can teach and support effectively.

3. The School Curriculum

At Barns Green Primary School, we believe that the curriculum plays an important role in determining the teaching for learning that takes place within the school (see Skills Progression document). We firmly believe that in order for effective teaching for learning to take place the curriculum needs to be...

- Meaningful
- Interesting and stimulating
- Child friendly but challenging
- Varied
- Developing intellectual, personal and social skills
- Flexible
- Inspiring!!!



4. Planning and Assessment

In order to ensure that effective teaching for learning is occurring staff and children need to be aware of the 'whole picture'. It is important that teachers plan effectively and realistically to ensure that all children are given the opportunities to achieve all they are capable of.

At Barns Green Primary School, we dedicate time and energy to ensure that our planning is thorough and differentiated enough to allow all children to be truly supported and stretched. We believe that the most effective teaching for learning takes place when the planning identifies...

- Clear learning outcomes
- Strategies for learning designed to achieve the L.O
- Differentiation
- Tasks
- Grouping
- Resources required
- Use of teaching assistants and classroom helpers
- Assessment and evaluation opportunities

Date approved:
11 January 2021

Review in
July 2024

BARNS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Teaching and Learning Policy

We strongly believe that, in order to meet the needs of our children, planning needs to be adaptive and flexible.

We assess our children both formally and informally (See Assessment Policy) and this informs our teaching by feeding into the planning cycle.

We value the planning and assessment cycle as we understand that it greatly supports effective teaching for learning.

5. Teaching for different learning styles

- We understand that all children learn differently and as a result our teaching styles need to be varied in order that all children are given equal opportunity to access the curriculum (See SEND Policy). We are skilled in our understanding of different learning styles and identifying specific needs.
- We believe that drama and role-play is important in stimulating and motivating children. Drama is often used to bring subjects alive and give children the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding through a creative and practical learning experience.
- As a small team of professionals at Barns Green we work closely together to capitalise on our individual strengths in order to support the children effectively.

It is important that we listen to our pupil voice, this is what our children think



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BARNS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Teaching and Learning Policy

about teaching and learning at Barns Green...

Appendix 1 - The Child's Voice

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Review in
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The Learning Environment

We have a really big field and lots of trees for oxygen.

When I look around me I find that the environment motivates me.

I just love it!

Our school is very modern.

There are words to help us with our learning all around the classroom.

I like the 'Words of Doom' because it makes me think and stops me from making silly spelling mistakes.

We have loads of fact books to help us.

I love our reading leaves they encourage me to read more and I feel proud when mine go up on display.

The teachers work very hard to fill space with eye-catching displays.



We have a good supply of equipment to use. It isn't broken or tatty so I know people look after it.

I look on the walls and the words there help me.

Things are tidy in our classroom and this helps me to find what I need.

It is very bright and colourful.

My school uniform makes me feel part of things. I like the colours because they aren't usual.

I like our school because it is not too big and you can always find someone.

We have loads of fact books to help us.

We have a really good library and librarians who look after it. I love having ~~sooo~~ many books at school.

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The Learning Culture

We look after our things and each other's things

Our values are really important, otherwise the school wouldn't be the way it is.

We have friends in all the classes.

We listen and follow SLANT so that we can learn. This shows respect.

Behaviour is usually great.

Every single teacher has been so supportive of me even though I sometimes find things difficult.

The teachers are so supportive.

I joined the school in year six but felt really included straight away.

Everyone joins in.

Our teachers understand and we can talk to them about anything.

Arguments get quickly sorted.



Our parents talk to our teachers.

We are always friendly to someone new.

We like working in teams.

I really love learning.

We help each other out.

We are a small school so we can always find our friends on the playground.

We really think about our school values and follow them.

Teaching and Learning Policy

Learning styles

We help each other to learn in a variety of ways.

I am definitely challenged to work hard and improve.

We have an exciting range of topics with something for everyone.

I really enjoy our special days like French Day and World Book Day.

I can ask for help and an explanation.

I loved making creatures on the field.

There is a balance of challenging and easy.

I can learn from my mistakes. Tickled pink and green for growth helps me.

I was really proud of standing up and taking part in the poetry slam. I didn't believe I could do it at first.

When we made fossils I understood how they were made in real life and I was able to write my own book about this.

This term we have learnt about history in different ways, through D.T, drama and the texts we have read in class. I know so much more.

We are given freedom of expression.

Teachers really support everyone and so do our friends.

There are different levels of challenge depending on what a teacher knows someone needs.

Teachers plan really interesting lessons.

We do so many different things in P.E.

Subjects don't get missed out.



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Child's Voice

Stars of the week motivate us all in school. You feel really proud because someone recognised what you do.

We have the chance to be ourselves because the school is so supportive.

It is cool getting a Head teacher's award. I really want the pencil.

It is sad when people teachers and helpers leave.

We definitely have a good range of clubs.

The last time I talked to a teacher like this I mentioned a problem and it got solved.

I am trying to get my pen licence so I am working really hard on my handwriting.

When I look at the Head girl and Head Boy it makes me think I want to be like that when I am older.

The teachers are kind.

I get extra challenges because I am pretty good at learning.

I like the clubs on the playground.

It's nice and fun in the playground

When I get a sticker I feel happy and joyful.

It is so much fun on the playground.

Learning is fun.

My teacher is really kind and helpful.

