

The Bliss Charity School



The Bliss Charity School aims to provide a caring, secure and enriching experience; each child is encouraged to develop strong personal, academic, physical and creative skills for lifelong learning.

Whole School Curriculum Overview (2020-2021)



1. The Creative Curriculum at The Bliss Charity School

- Intent – How is our creative curriculum designed, structured and sequenced?**

At The Bliss Charity School we believe that children learn best when lessons are fun, enjoyable and relevant. Our creative curriculum delivers the aims of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (<https://bit.ly/2HRJ0Yc>) and the National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (<http://bit.ly/1ciqczz>) in an engaging, cross-curricular, topic-based way, giving our pupils a broad and balanced range of enriching learning experiences as they progress through the school. While there is some discrete subject-based teaching, most learning at The Bliss Charity School is topic-based. Where content is taught separately, staff ensure these units of work adhere to the principles of our creative curriculum.

- Implementation – How is our creative curriculum taught?**

Our creative curriculum is topic-based, with subject-specific content and objectives threaded together into termly topics in each year group. In most instances, the over-arching theme for each topic is derived from an aspect of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework or the National Curriculum, which has then be developed to teach knowledge and skills from other subjects.

With support, freedom and challenge from school leaders, teachers at The Bliss Charity School are trusted and empowered to design enriching, cross-curricular topics for the children they teach. Coupling this autonomy with class-based cost centres, provides teachers with the resources they need to create and deliver broad and balanced learning experiences in the most engaging, enjoyable and effective ways.

Underpinning the creative curriculum is our unique ‘Metacognition Programme’ which has been specifically designed to enable pupils to maximise their learning potential. The Bliss Charity School’s ‘Metacognition Programme’ is focused on the development of excellent behaviour-for-learning, by encouraging children to acquire the core skills and attitudes needed to self-regulate and succeed as independent learners. Metacognition is interwoven in everything we do at Bliss – it is the ‘language’ of our school.

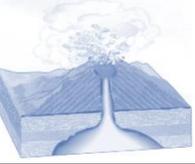
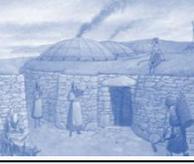
Attitudes					Skills				
Curious 	Empathetic 	Enthusiastic 	Independent 	Open minded 	Applying 	Aware of Learning Styles 	Collaborating 	Communicating 	Creating 
Pride in myself and others 	Reflective 	Resilient 	Responsible 	Risk Taker 	Making Choices and Decisions 	Questioning 	Reasoning 	Researching 	Self Managing 

- Impact – What are the end results of our creative curriculum?**

An interesting, fun and relevant topic-based curriculum equips children with both the enthusiasm and information needed to make good progress and attain highly. By linking objectives through enjoyable over-arching themes, pupils are not only engaged in their learning, they also acquire a depth of knowledge and language that can then be applied to the development of key skills. As a result, outcomes for pupils are very good and ahead of national averages at all statutory assessment points:

- Typically, pupils enter the school with broadly average knowledge, understanding and skills.
- Good progress is then made through the reception year and cohorts go on to exceed the national average for a Good Level of Development on exit from the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Pupils then make good progress through Key Stage 1: the vast majority of pupils meet the national phonics screening benchmark at the end of Year 1 and these good early reading skills help most children to work at the expected standard or higher by the end of Year 2.
- High levels of attainment are then maintained in Years 3-6, leading to outcomes at the end of Key Stage 2 which are above national.

2. School Topics – 2020-2021

	Term 1 September 3 rd 2020 – October 23 rd 2020	Term 2 November 3 rd 2020 – December 18 th 2020	Term 3 January 5 th 2021 – February 12 th 2021	Term 4 February 22 nd 2021 – March 26 th 2021	Term 5 April 13 th 2021 – May 28 th 2021	Term 6 June 7 th 2021 – July 20 th 2021
Class R	<i>I am Special</i>	<i>Seasons and Celebrations</i>	<i>Dinosaurs</i>	<i>Stories</i>	<i>Superheroes</i>	<i>Minibeasts</i>
						
Class 1	<i>Scarecrows, Skeletons & Me</i>	<i>Home Sweet Home</i>	<i>Paddington's Tour of the UK</i>	<i>Animal Rescue</i>	<i>The Tiny Seed</i>	<i>Ahoy There!</i>
						
Class 2	<i>Dungeons and Dragons</i>	<i>Toys from the Past</i>	<i>Space</i>	<i>Chocolate Explorers</i>	<i>Amazing Animals</i>	<i>Around the World in 35 Days!</i>
						
Class 3	<i>Under the Sea</i>	<i>Volcanoes</i>	<i>Ice Worlds!</i>	<i>Ancient Egypt</i>	<i>Our Local Area</i>	<i>The Romans</i>
						
Class 4	<i>India</i>	<i>It's Electric!</i>	<i>Here come the Invaders!</i>	<i>The Vikings!</i>	<i>Rainforests</i>	<i>We are Conservationists</i>
						
Class 5	<i>The Great Outdoors</i>	<i>Earth, Sun and Moon</i>	<i>Ancient Greece</i>	<i>The Tudors</i>	<i>The Shang Dynasty</i>	<i>The Stone Age</i>
						
Class 6	<i>Healthy Body, Healthy Mind</i>	<i>The Battle of Britain</i>	<i>Evolution and Explorers</i>	<i>Black History</i>	<i>Planet Earth</i>	
						

3. Further information about our curriculum

Termly class newsletters provide more detailed information about the content of the topics. Once published, these are emailed home to parents/carers and they are available on the 'Class' pages in the 'Pupils' section of our school website (www.bliss.northants.sch.uk).

Whole-school newsletters provide further information about the children's learning in general. These are published throughout the year; they are emailed home to parents/carers and they are available on the 'Newsletters' page in the 'Parents' section of our school website.

Our *twitter* feed (@BlissCharitySch) is used to give an immediate insight into the children's day-to-day learning, celebrating successes and achievements throughout the school.

The subject-specific objectives, age-related objectives that underpin the class topics are available on the year group curriculum overviews. These objectives are used by school staff to plan their topics and to make assessments.

4. Published schemes used at The Bliss Charity School

At Bliss, we use some published schemes of work to support the delivery of our curriculum:

Curriculum Area	Scheme Name	Overview
Phonics	<i>Read, Write Inc. Phonics</i>	<i>Read, Write Inc. Phonics</i> is a structured and systematic approach to teaching phonics. The programme meets the higher expectations of the national curriculum – see http://bit.ly/2vtjyoO
Spelling	<i>Read, Write Inc. Spelling</i>	<i>Read, Write Inc. Spelling</i> for Years 2 to 6 has been specially created to meet the higher demands of the national curriculum. Spelling rules are introduced by aliens from an exciting online spelling planet – see http://bit.ly/2vtgPf6
Handwriting	<i>Kinetic Letters</i>	<i>Kinetic Letters</i> is a systematic, holistic approach to the teaching of handwriting: it combines physical, body-strengthening exercises and motor skills preparation with dynamic movements for learning letter shapes and sensory experiences for memory and recall – see http://kineticletters.co.uk/
Physical Education	<i>Real PE</i>	'Real PE' is a unique, child-centred approach that transforms PE teaching, engaging and challenging every child. The 'Real PE' programme is based on the Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS) of agility, balance and coordination, inclusive competition and broader essential holistic skills (creative, cognitive, social and personal development) – see https://jasmineactive.com/solutions/real-pe