

Our Key Stage 1 and 2 Curriculum

From Year 1 to Year 6 pupils follow a topic based curriculum which incorporates all National Curriculum subjects.

The primary phase follows The International Primary Curriculum (IPC) for the foundation subjects. It is an internationally-minded, thematic, cross-curricular and rigorous teaching structure used in over 85 countries.

A 21st century curriculum

- ✓ An international, up to date, comprehensive and future oriented curriculum programme
- ✓ Aimed at primary aged children (3-12) growing up in the 21st Century
- ✓ It nurtures a love of learning and encourages the necessary key skills and personal qualities



The IPC defines as clearly as possible what the vast majority of children are expected to learn through 3 types of goals:

- Subject
- Personal
- International

Subject goals

- ✓ Art
- ✓ Geography
- ✓ History
- ✓ ICT
- ✓ Language Arts
- ✓ Music
- ✓ PE
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Society
- ✓ Technology

Personal Goals

- ✓ Enquiry
- ✓ Adaptability
- ✓ Resilience
- ✓ Morality
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Thoughtfulness
- ✓ Cooperation
- ✓ Respect

International Goals

- ✓ National
- ✓ International
- ✓ Knowledge and understanding beyond own nationality
- ✓ Understanding of the independence and interdependence of people cultures and countries
- ✓ A degree of focus on the country in which we live
- ✓ A degree of focus on another country

The IPC units from which the children are taught contain:

1. Basic information
2. Learning targets
3. Entry point
4. Knowledge harvest
5. Explaining the theme
6. Big picture
7. Unit activities
 - ✓ Researching activities
 - ✓ Recording activities
 - ✓ International Activities
 - ✓ Extension Activities

IPC units are thematically based. Each theme will last for a number of weeks. Within the timeframe of each unit the children will focus on that theme through one particular subject before moving onto another subject

Computing, Music and PE are taught by specialist teachers.

PE

For P.E. in the primary phase have specialist staff who deliver the curriculum to children all the way from year 1 to year 6.

We follow a scheme of work called REAL P.E. which moves away from simply teaching children a set list of sports and games, but instead where the focus is on teaching Fundamental Movement Skills of agility, balance and coordination, inclusive competition and broader essential holistic skills, recognising the equal importance of personal, social and team working skills. Progression is tracked all the way through the school, with children given the responsibility to self-assess and become involved in analysing their own skills and identifying next steps for their development. Each term children from key stage 2 compete against each other in a competition based on either dance, sport or gymnastics.

Staff take children to different sporting competitions throughout the year, where they compete against other schools from across the borough. There are also after schools clubs running every day of the week ranging from popular sports such as basketball and football to ballet.

Music

The music scheme of work which is used in the Primary phase is in line with the National Curriculum. The children learn elements of performing, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, composition, musical vocabulary and terms. Over the year three instruments are used as a focus-the djembe drums, xylophones and ukeles. Well known musicians and composers from the present and past are explored.

Singing plays a large part in the Primary Music curriculum. The children learn new songs regularly, both in their weekly singing assemblies and in Music lessons. Through singing they learn to perform in groups and solo, singing songs from around the world in unison and parts with accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Computing

Using the iCompute scheme of work, we provide children with:

- the opportunity to use a rich variety of digital tools and technologies;

- the chance to learn how to develop ideas;
- interactive activities to build core skills: communication, collaboration, creativity, presentation and self-evaluation.

One of the intentions of the computing curriculum is to enable children to become digitally literate and develop the knowledge and skills necessary to fully participate in modern culture. This means having access to a broad range of software and technologies and experiencing them in different ways and contexts.

We want children to have as much exposure to learning about digital technologies as possible. The National Curriculum for Computing marks a radical shift in thinking about how children learn about technology and using technology.

Over half of the objectives (and even more in Key Stage 2) now focus on the fundamental principles of **Computer Science**: learning how computers and computer systems operate and how they are programmed. To meet these needs, children will take part in activities that include:

Key Stage 1

- Staying safe online
- Off-computer activities to support understanding of algorithms
- Programming physical and virtual toys
- Creating, manipulating and storing digital text
- Personal information and being safe online
- Creating simple animations
- Using the web to find things out

Key Stage 2

- Staying safe in a digital world
- Exploring computer simulations
- Sorting and splitting. How problems can be solved more easily
- Computer networking including using web browsers and search engines safely and effectively
- Designing and developing computer games
- Remixing and creating web content using HTML
- Designing and developing mobile apps

Alongside Computing sessions, skills will also be developed as we will continue with the best practice model of embedding Information Technology into other curriculum areas. This will give children further access to a range of software,

technologies and tools and allow them to apply their knowledge and skills in different areas. The IPC units include topic-based Computing tasks alongside Mathematics, English, Science, Geography, History and Art.

Throughout their primary school education, children at Buxton will develop computational thinking skills to design and create their own digital content. This provides an exciting opportunity for our children to engage children in becoming digital creators rather than passive consumers.

Our curriculum is enhanced and supported by:

- A creative, dynamic and interactive learning and teaching environment to support and challenge individual learning;
- WOW days;
- Outdoor environment and local community use;
- A formal timetabled programme of lessons which are based on the National Curriculum;
- Extra-curricular activities such as year group drama productions, music clubs, sports opportunities etc;
- Outside educational visits and trips to enrich subjects and topics, such as visits to museums and art galleries, the local market, Suntrap etc;
- Outside speakers and visitors in school for example parents, authors, Community Police Officer etc;
- Peripetetic teachers deliver instrumental music lesson to individual pupils(this will incur a cost);
- Having specialist teachers for PE, Music and Drama.

More information about our curriculum and topics is shared with parents and carers through:

- Half termly letters to parents;
- The School website;
- Class assemblies;
- Invitations to exhibitions, workshops and displays in school;
- The school Facebook and Twitter@BuxtonSchInfo;

We are committed to creating a curriculum which is inclusive and relevant to our pupils and community. Links are made through subjects as part of our IPC creative topic based curriculum.

Mathematics and English are taught as discreet subjects and linked to the class topic where appropriate. Phonics, spelling and reading are also taught as discreet subjects across the school.

