



*“Most students come to school ready to learn. Others come to learn how to be learners. Some come to school to be cared for and loved.”*

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## The Instinctual Brain

The primitive part of the brain that is concerned with our **physical systems**. During traumatic events (or when memories are triggered) this part of the brain takes over to keep us safe.

## The Emotional Brain

Concerned with emotions such as sadness, joy, anger and anxiety. When using this part of the brain we can only think of ourselves and need to defend ourselves. Leads to a fight, flight or freeze response.

## The Thinking Brain

Enables us to develop new skills and problem solve. The thinking brain is used when developing relationships and when looking ahead to the future.



## Our curriculum model

Our curriculum is developmental not chronological: it is based on where a child is in their development, not which year group they are in. Pupils are assessed on entry in a range of ways, and their work is tailored to their current stage of academic learning and SEMH development. For many of our pupils their personal development and SEMH needs mean that work in this area has to be prioritised, as a vital first building block in their learning journey. Our curriculum model also recognises the importance of having a strong academic core: for us, this means focusing on literacy, including spoken language, reading and writing, as one of the primary tools through which all other learning is accessed.

### The Core Curriculum

Enabling students to engage and enjoy a  
broad and balanced curriculum

### Personal Development

Developing pupils' social, emotional and  
mental health

### Literacy

Ensuring pupils make progress in spoken  
language, reading and writing

## Intent

Our Primary curriculum is designed to:

- Engage all pupils in learning
- Enable all pupils to make progress from their individual starting points, and to have successes in learning
- Develop pupil's social, emotional and mental health
- Focus on depth before breadth: having a strong curriculum focus on the facilitating subjects of English, Reading and Mathematics
- Support all pupils to make healthy and safe choices
- Support all pupils to move into, and be successful in, their next phase of education
- To deliver a broad and balanced programme of study to reflect the national curriculum content



# Primary Curriculum

Enable all  
pupils to make  
progress from  
starting points

Support pupils  
to make  
healthy & safe  
choices

Focus on  
developing  
pupils Social,  
emotional and  
mental health

Engage all  
pupils in  
learning

**Primary  
Curriculum  
Intent**

Allow pupils  
to explore  
subjects through  
a thematic  
Enquiry  
approach

Support  
pupils to be  
successful in  
their next  
phase of  
education

Strong  
curriculum  
focus on  
English,  
Reading &  
Maths

Enable all  
pupils to  
experience  
success



## Implementation

At Springwell we use an enquiry based curriculum, this is a form of active learning that starts with a hook/topic. The learning journey is explicitly shared with children in order to ensure they connect to the big picture of their learning. This approach encourages children to take ownership of their learning and become engaged, independent and motivated.

Pupils in Primary explore the following subjects, using the following curricular programmes as the base of medium term planning:

### Personal Development

Our students' social and emotional development is a key priority for us. Teachers ensure that themes around wellbeing and relationships permeate through all lessons. Classroom staff and the SEMH staff support all pupils to begin to recognise their feelings and emotions and understand the concept of The Brain House characters and 'flipping your lid' using Siegel's Model of the Brain. Where needed staff use co-regulation to support pupils in crisis, with the aim for pupils to become more able to self-regulate over time. Pupils learn about what happens to their body when they are anxious and the intention is that they are able to recognise these signs and explore strategies to help them regulate big feelings and emotions.

We also offer a range of 1:1 SEMH interventions as part of our intervention menu, so that pupils with significant development needs identified on their Boxall profile can receive personalised support.

<b>Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development + FBV</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have put SMSC 'at the heart' of our curriculum. It is the over-arching umbrella that encompasses personal development across the whole curriculum. Our enquiry approach is based on a hook/topic to be considered over a term with each subject hooked onto it. Feeding into this are smaller enquiry questions based on the SMSC strands.</li> </ul>
<b>Enrichment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our curriculum model reflects the importance of enrichment in our children's school lives. We have dedicated curriculum time for enrichment, ensuring our students experience success through a range of activities and learning experiences. This may take place in classes, in key stages or across key stages in 'families'. We work on developing relationships and building cultural capital in our young people. Activities are tailored to our students and may include but are not limited to climbing, equine intervention programmes, sports, yoga, music and bushcraft.</li> <li>Pupils may have the opportunity to take part in other activities to enhance the curriculum and provide opportunities for further personal and social development.</li> </ul>
<b>Character education</b>	Character education is embedded in our daily nurture approach and can be delivered for example during nurture breakfast, structured activities, regulation time and interventions.



## Key Subject Areas

<b>Reading</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our timetabled reading slots are 'learning to read', 'reading for pleasure' and 'topic/story time'.</li><li>• We use Read, Write, Inc as our phonics programme, along with a wide range of other work designed to allow pupils to develop a love for as well as proficiency in reading.</li><li>• In school we use accelerated reader to develop reading for these with a reading age over 6 years.</li><li>• All KS zones have their own comfortable library area and children's reading and reading comprehension is supported by teaching to complement interventions.</li><li>• All children have access to high quality books linked to topic to support writing and inspire the writing process.</li><li>• Children will have a broad and balanced diet of reading a wide range of texts through 'learning to read'. Differentiated and scaffolded questions to support oracy and vocabulary skills are embedded throughout.</li><li>• Children will have access to age appropriate texts to develop confidence and competence within their developmental age.</li><li>• Children will be immersed in a topic related story which will be read to them.</li></ul>
<b>Literacy and English</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our literacy learning journey is based on the National Curriculum and expectations for pupils at the end of key stages 1 and 2.</li><li>• Our enquiry based learning allows us to link our literacy work to our class topic. Our learning journey allows us to meet challenge and develop skills across reading, writing and spoken language.</li><li>• We offer a range of literacy interventions as part of our intervention menu, so that pupils with significant gaps in learning can receive personalised support.</li><li>• As well as working towards literacy objectives in literacy lessons, teachers ensure that literacy (including reading, writing, and spoken English) permeates all other lessons, and social time, at school.</li><li>• We have completed an oracy project with Voice 21 to develop all children's oracy skills. All KS zones have their own comfortable library area and children's reading and reading comprehension is supported by teaching to complement interventions.</li></ul>
<b>Numeracy and maths</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our Maths learning journey is based on National Curriculum skills. These skills feature in the Classroom Secrets package. This supports teacher delivery of different challenge and allows for small step progression in mathematical skills.</li><li>• We ensure we are developing strong mathematical processing and reasoning skills as well as providing children with the opportunity to develop Maths skills in a concrete, pictorial and abstract manner (CPA).</li></ul>



<b>Numeracy and maths</b> (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The CPA approach builds on children’s existing knowledge by introducing abstract concepts in a concrete and tangible way. It involves moving from concrete materials, to pictorial representations, to abstract symbols.</li><li>• We place an importance on using mathematical language and use talk tasks to develop varied fluency, problem solving and reasoning skills.</li><li>• Our intervention menu includes pre-teaching and over learning interventions so that pupils with significant gaps in learning can receive individualised and personalised support.</li></ul>
<b>Science</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children will have a selection of ‘topic related’ lessons over each term in which they can learn knowledge related to all areas of the Science curriculum. They will be taught the essential skills of ‘working scientifically’ whilst gaining an understanding of the part that Science plays in their lives and environment.</li><li>• To help engage our children in Science, we also provide an opportunity to work through a programme of Crest Awards. The children can participate in 8 crest activities over the term, they will gain a star certificate.</li></ul>
<b>PSHE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We use the PSHE Association to form the basis of our PSHE curriculum and teachers can access resources and planning to help children to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future.</li><li>• We use the ‘planning framework for children with SEND’ provided by the PSHE Association to plan a flexible approach to learning in accordance with pupils’ development, readiness and needs, and taking into account prior learning, experience and understanding.</li><li>• With our nurture based curriculum, we embed PSHE in to all we do and provide opportunities for discussion based activities during, for example, in our structured breakfast, lunch and snack times as well as other set times across the week.</li></ul>



## Ensuring a broad curriculum

<b>Topic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We use an overarching title supported by enquiry base to explore our topic work. This allows teachers to explore learning objectives from humanities and the creative arts, so that students experience breadth in the curriculum. Teachers chose topics that will suit the developmental age, needs and interests of the students in their class.</li><li>• Cornerstones is accessible and provides a good foundation for our enquiry based learning, however, we encourage teachers to 'make topics their own', 'give the topics life' and develop them in such a way that 'hooks' the children into their learning.</li><li>• Our topics are flexible so class teachers can be responsive and adapt to the needs and interest of the children in their class. Through this approach children are encouraged to research, investigate and problem solve to inform their learning. This approach encourages children to take ownership of their learning and become engaged, independent and motivated.</li><li>• We have developed our own SMSC and BV enquiry questions for each topic to ensure this learning is explored, embedded and assessed throughout an enquiry</li><li>• So that we can offer the breadth in the curriculum, children are offered the opportunity to explore Geography, History, Technology and Art. The depth that we offer will be appropriate to each learner.</li></ul>
<b>Physical activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All students also have regular opportunities throughout the week for physical activity including through structured activities at break and lunch time</li><li>• Our intervention menu includes Sports intervention and the use of sensory circuits to 'alert, organise and calm' children ready for learning</li></ul>
<b>IT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All children are taught applied IT skills across the curriculum</li></ul>
<b>RE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teachers explore links within our comprehensive PSHE curriculum and during enrichment time.</li></ul>
<b>Music</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teachers engage and inspire a love of music via active discussions during nurture breakfast and enrichment sessions. The school is involved in a Sound Lincs project and students are offered opportunities to develop their talents.</li></ul>



## Impact

We will measure the impact of the curriculum in the following ways:

- Observations of learning
- Student voice
- Parent/carer voice
- Attendance
- Analysis of student progress data
- Students' work
- Analysis of behaviour data
- Analysis of progress in reading
- Number of students successfully reintegrated to the next phase of their education

Children will develop skills in order for them to engage effectively in educational settings, namely they will:

- give purposeful attention
- participate constructively
- connect up experiences
- show insightful involvement
- engage cognitively with peers
- be emotionally secure
- be biddable, accept constraints
- be accommodating to others
- respond constructively to others
- maintain internalised standards