

Elm Academy is committed to meeting the requirements of the 2014 National primary curriculum. We have updated our schemes of work to reflect the content and challenge of the 2014 curriculum. Teachers have received training in the key areas of curriculum change and we are ready to provide outstanding curriculum provision. The curriculum will be taught with the consideration of the needs of all learners. Our curriculum will be exciting and will inspire children to nurture a passion for learning.

The curriculum at Elm Academy provides the perfect mix of knowledge, creativity and skills development to promote excellence and enjoyment of learning. We believe that exciting, engaging lessons, adapted individually to each child's needs are the best way to ensure every child succeeds. Reading, Writing and Maths are taught daily in our school in accordance with the National Curriculum 2014 programs of study, ensuring that all children develop the core key skills they will need. These core skills are then applied in other subjects, giving children opportunities to refine, practise and master their knowledge in practical and engaging contexts. All teachers tailor their lessons carefully to ensure that every child can fully access the curriculum – whatever their ability – in order to succeed. Each child is challenged and supported where appropriate in order to maximise their potential and become confident and independent learners. Our balanced and broad curriculum fully equips our children for life in pupils and preparing our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

At Elm Academy, every child is important and deserves success. We will support and help every child to become the best they can possibly be. We want each child to:

- Have high expectations of what they can and will achieve
- Achieve the very best they can
- Make progress in their learning
- Have a positive attitude towards their learning
- Have a healthy lifestyle
- Feel safe and secure
- Be proud of their school and their uniform
- Be polite, kind and helpful members of the community

But most of all to...

- Enjoy school!

At Elm Academy, we endeavour to achieve all of this, for all our children.

Reading, Writing and Maths

Elm Academy fully subscribes to the principles underlying the 2014 National Curriculum which provides primary pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge they need to become educated citizens. The National Curriculum introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

Our teachers strive to develop our children's spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary as integral aspects of teaching in every subject. English is both a subject in its own right and the medium for teaching; we believe that fully understanding language provides access to the whole curriculum. Fluency in the English language is an essential foundation for success in all subjects. Our children are taught to read fluently, understand extended prose (both fiction and non-fiction) and are encouraged to read for pleasure.

Elm Academy aim for all pupils to develop the stamina and skills to write at length, with accurate spelling and punctuation. They are explicitly taught the correct use of grammar to expand the range and sophistication of their writing. During their time at Elm Academy, the children study, embed and master a range of genres including narratives, explanations, descriptions, comparisons, summaries and evaluations: such writing supports them in rehearsing, understanding and consolidating what they have heard or read. Where appropriate, the genres and the texts studied are matched to their IPC topics- further engaging, inspiring and expanding our children's wider learning.

In agreement with the National Curriculum 2014, Elm Academy highly values the importance of spoken language in pupils' development across the whole curriculum – cognitively, socially and linguistically. As universally acknowledged, spoken language underpins the development of reading and writing. The quality and variety of language that children hear and speak is vital for developing their vocabulary and grammar and their understanding for reading and writing. Accordingly, a variety of high quality opportunities are given at Elm Academy allowing children to develop their confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills.

In addition to teaching mathematics discretely, Elm Academy teachers provide daily opportunities for the children to develop their numeracy and mathematical reasoning across all curriculum subjects so that our children understand and appreciate the importance of mathematics in everyday life. We strongly believe that confidence in numeracy and other mathematical skills is a precondition of success across the full National Curriculum. Our children are taught to apply arithmetic fluently to problems, understand and use measures, make estimates and sense check their work. Our children are given numerous opportunities to develop and apply their geometric and algebraic understanding to a range of meaningful contexts. They also relate their understanding of probability to the notions of risk and uncertainty.

For further information regarding the National Curriculum Programs of Study for Writing, Reading and Maths please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-primary-curriculum>.

Topic

Our topic based approached curriculum provides a variety of opportunities for learning through a wide range of stimulating lessons which seek to create a vibrant and exciting environment. This enables each child to develop an in-depth knowledge of a particular area whilst making links between subjects.

Our topic based curriculum provides practical and realistic scenarios for children to expand their skills base by utilising topic based learning. This style of teaching encourages group skills as well as independence enabling each child to achieve their full potential in every area.

At Elm Academy we aim to equip our children with the skills and experiences they need to best help them develop into positive, responsible people who can work and co-operate with others while developing lively enquiring minds, the ability to question and argue rationally and enabling them to

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independently apply themselves to tasks and physical skills. We provide our children with numerous opportunities to take responsibility for their own learning and to shape the direction of their studies.

We ensure full coverage of all foundation subjects outlined in the National Curriculum 2014: art and design, computing (previously Information and Communications Technology, or ICT), design and technology, languages (previously foreign languages), geography, history, music and physical education.

Our main curriculum is further extended with other aspects of learning, including personal, social and health education thus equipping our children with the skills they need to become responsible global citizens. Our curriculum actively promotes the 5 fundamental British Values, details of which are outlined in our **British Values Statement**. We ensure that all our children experience a safe space in which to discuss and challenge controversial issues thereby assisting their personal, social and emotional development and accepting, engaging and embedding our British Values.

Religious Education

Elm Academy actively promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children and values the multi-cultural and multi faith nature of their backgrounds. We use the wealth of this diversity to enrich the understanding, respect and tolerance of all members of our academy which greatly enriches how we teach.

We aim to promote pupils' understanding of the world in which they live and the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations. We encourage respect for religious and moral values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life. We help our children appreciate human achievements and aspirations and to value the high expectations they have for themselves and others. We foster the spiritual development of our children by teaching them how to become reflective about their own beliefs and to have respect for different people's faith, feelings and values.

During their time at Elm Academy the children will engage with and study key world religions. Each year group will explore Christianity and either Hinduism, Islam, Judaism or Sikhism. Each theme studied will involve key questions to frame enquiry skills and to encourage critical thinking, personal reflection and evaluation skills. These sessions will not only develop our children's spiritual development but also equip them to understand and celebrate religious diversity.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Elm Academy are proud to offer our children a wide range of extra-curricular activities which are led by our PE Lead teacher. The vast majority of our clubs are run free of charge and include not only sports clubs designed to engage children further with team games but also clubs that celebrate the creative arts and those which further a love of learning.

We are proud of our sporting achievements at Elm Academy and during 2015-2016 our children participated in the following competitions and events:

- Football friendly matches for Year 5 and 6 boys and girls .
- Predator Football competition run at the Littledown Centre for Year 5 and 6 boys and girls.
- Invitational Cup (open for Year 5 and 6 boys and girls who do not play competitive football) at the Littledown Centre.
- Bournemouth Year 6 boys Football League.
- Bournemouth Year 5 and 6 girls Football League.
- BournemouthTown Sports Athletics for boys and girls in Years 3-6.
- Bournemouth Swimming Gala for Year 4 and 5 boys and girls.

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- Cross Country competition
- Quad Kids
- Kwik Cricket Competition
- Tennis Competition
- Rounders League
- Junior Rock Challenge Dance Competition

Musical opportunities are also highly valued at Elm Academy and as such we have a specialist music teacher who delivers the curriculum to all students. Our school choir performs at a variety of local events, including at the Bournemouth Pavilion. For those children interested in developing their own musical expertise we offer lessons from specialist music teachers in a range of musical instruments