



John Bunyan Primary School and Nursery

Why Our Curriculum Is Designed As It Is?



1. **Our Core Skills** are explicitly taught across the school with Speaking and Listening skills taught throughout the year. **Our Code of Conduct** is intentionally woven into lessons together with **our Core Values**. **This enables everyone in our community to become valued members of our community and society as a whole.**
2. We have highly structured approaches to the **teaching of Reading, Writing and Mathematics**. **This ensures consistency and maximises the attainment of all children.**
3. We provide **a Creative Curriculum** **which provides our children with memorable learning opportunities, building high levels of engagement and aspiration.**

We do this by:

- Ensuring the voices of young people are central to curriculum development – giving a sense of shared ownership of their own learning and their school eg. learning journeys strive to engage both boys and girls. At the start of each unit we ask – ‘What do you already know?’ and ‘What do you want to find out about?’ Teachers plan a clear ‘launch’ to the topic and a clear ‘celebration’ – product/coming together/sharing with parents providing clarity, purpose and audience
- Raising self-esteem and self-worth through active participation/involvement - emotional wellbeing is central to our curriculum. Securing their place in the wider community and empowering them to make contributions and influence change.
- Providing authentic artists and practitioners who work alongside our staff **thereby creating an integrated approach - giving a holistic experience for both children and staff eg. The Mercury Theatre plan with staff to dramatise and innovate stories and texts used in our Talk for Writing approach.**
- Ensuring a progression of skills is in place for all subjects through planning documents and assessment - **staff have a springboard to think and plan creatively and children have a clear pathway to build skills and encounter new opportunities.**
- Ensuring visits/visitors and community involvement are built into each learning journey **providing rich experiences which are not always accessible to our community & valuing what we have in our locality.**
- Securing our place in the wider community and empowering our children to make contributions and influence change - **emotional wellbeing is central to our curriculum.**
- Embedding a creative approach over a number of years – our school was engaged with Creative Partnerships and was a ‘Change School’. We are now part of the Local Cultural Educational Partnership:
 - Artsmark School – Platinum Award
 - Essex Music Hub – workshops, events, singing
 - Mercury Theatre – weekly workshops
 - ROH Dance project
 - Essex Dance project
 - Saffron Hall
 - Braintree Livewell Child Project
 - Braintree museum
- Providing extensive extra-curricular programme with approx. 27 clubs to allow our children to follow passions and interests and raise awareness of opportunities e.g. fencing, golf, archery and dancing. Offered in school, these facilitate positive attitudes to learning in school.