

The **primary curriculum** is designed to nurture the child in all dimensions of his or her life — spiritual, moral, cognitive, emotional, imaginative, aesthetic, social and physical.

Curriculum Design

When designing the curriculum, information and guidance was considered along with the school context and rationale. As a school, our curriculum prioritises an appreciation of human creativity and achievement to equip pupils with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. There is a regular and strong focus on the personal development of pupils, including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Social responsibility has been threaded through the curriculum and linked to all subjects where meaningful and relevant.

Through PSHCE, RE, Geography, History and Science lessons, children learn respect, understanding and tolerance for themselves and others, developing global awareness for the world they live in. Through PSHCE and PE, pupils also learn how to keep healthy, both in body and mind, which also enables development of resilience and confidence. The curriculum ensures that pupils can embrace quiet, reflection time to balance our often over-stimulated and fast-paced society.

At Balfour, our curriculum enables learning of many subjects to occur through creative, art-based activities. Art and Design Technology have a positive impact on social skills and mental health as well as supporting the development of cognitive and critical thinking skills through active problem-solving.

Some subjects are part of learning daily, some weekly, some in blocks, some as part of a topic and others as part of special days or weeks:

- Daily: Maths, English

(In Year 1, Maths and English are taught as blocked, whole morning carousels)

- Assemblies with a focus on values, rights and social responsibility, global themes, religious festivals, special days and current affairs take place three times per week.
- Weekly: PE, Computing
- Blocks: Science, History, Geography, Art and Design, Design and Technology, Music, RE, PSHCE/RSE, Languages (KS2 only)
- Special days/weeks: Science Week, Global Learning Week, Sports Week, Careers Week

Delivery of the Curriculum

We have developed a Scheme of Work for every subject area which outlines the key knowledge and skills for each year group, starting at EYFS. Within this Subject Teams have highlighted interleaving and cross curricular links to ensure that the curriculum is well sequenced and interconnected to offer rich and meaningful learning opportunities. Year groups refer to these when designing the half termly overviews of learning and create opportunities to connect the learning through cross-curricular links. Therefore, we have not set out specific timings for subject areas but focus on the coverage of the knowledge and skills set out for each subject area. Key aspects of knowledge and skills are assessed for each child as they move through the school to inform progress and aid planning.

Below is an example of a timetable which illustrate how learning is organised:

	Session 1		Session 2		Session 3	Session 4
Monday	Maths		Guided Reading	English	Assembly	Foundation Subjects
Tuesday	Maths		Grammar	English	Art/DT	PE
Wednesday	Maths		Guided Reading	English	Computing	Foundation Subjects
Thursday	Maths		Library	English	Assembly	Foundation Subjects
			SEAL			
Friday	PE		Grammar	Maths	Ass em bly	PSHE RE French

Timetables are based on 36 weeks of teaching time in a teaching year of 38 weeks (190 days). This allows two weeks (10 days) for special curriculum events and activities such as religious festivals, concerts, educational visits and sports day.

Timetabling

Balfour has a standard three-term year and five-day week, with a weekly total of teaching time in KS1 of 21 hours 30 minutes and in KS2 of 23 hours 5 minutes. All children have a morning break and a lunch break. We adhere to the Local Authority set holiday dates.

Collective worship is timetabled for all children three times per week. Hall times for PE are timetabled for all classes and computer suite times are timetabled for Year 1 – Year 6. Year groups and class teachers organise the remainder of their timetable.

The National Curriculum framework document can be viewed below.