

Our Golden Threads

At Downsell we believe that there is a 'golden thread' that is woven through all we do at school. These golden threads link to our curriculum drivers and our school's motto – learning today, leading tomorrow.

Our Golden Threads:

1. Communication
2. Knowledge and skills
3. Experiences
4. Citizens of the world

Our Curriculum Targets		
Curriculum target 1	Curriculum target 2	Curriculum target 3
To ensure that every child leaves our school with the necessary skills and knowledge as Communicators, Readers and Mathematicians	To deliver a broad and balanced curriculum	To embed British Values and SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural) opportunities across the curriculum.

Reading

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum because we know how important Reading is to be able to access the curriculum and the world around us. We want to ensure that all of our children leave school with the necessary skills and the confidence to say – I am a Reader! By providing them with learning opportunities and experiences of reading for pleasure, we aim to instil a real love for reading.

Our Golden Threads

Communication

The ability to communicate effectively is essential to both building relationships and learning and is a core priority within our school. As an inclusive school, we have high aspirations for all our children and provide a range of opportunities and experiences for all children to develop and use an increasing range of vocabulary and sentences effectively. We recognise that the voice of the pupil is also a key area that support our children and we give many opportunities for the development of communication through pupil voice.

Knowledge and Skills

We believe all our children deserve the opportunity to leave each key stage with the knowledge and skills needed to excel as they move to the next phase of their education. Our curriculum, underpinned by the National Curriculum, is carefully sequenced and progressive giving time to ensure children **know more and remember more.**

Experiences

It is important to us that our children, from Nursery to Year 6, are immersed in experiences that are inclusive, meaningful, challenging, and engaging. We aim for the experiences to stimulate curiosity and questions whilst providing our children with the opportunities to explore their own learning and motivating them to take risks and challenges. Experiences can be seen in many different ways at Downsell, such as school trips, assemblies, visitors, resources, and experiences within lessons.

Citizens of the World

Learning today, leading tomorrow – this is our aspiration for all of our children as they move on from Downsell. We aim to give them the necessary skills and experiences needed, in the future, to navigate the wider world.

EYFS

We aim to provide the foundation of children's learning and experiences. Enabling them to become imaginative and creative learners readily prepared for the next stage of their learning and lives.

Geography

We want our children to be equipped with knowledge of the world. For them to become inquisitive about the world around them, and confident in taking action for things they want change.

History

We aim for our children to develop an understanding of the world before their time. In order for children to appreciate the world around us we want them understand how the past has shaped this world. By the end of their time at Downsell we want to give children the necessary skills to go ask questions, research and find answers to what life was like in the past.

Science

By the end of their time at Downsell, we want our children to have a deeper understanding / overview of Science, supporting them to understand how science exists outside of the classroom.

We want to promote the love of Science and inspire our children to be become Scientists of the future.

Religious Education (RE)

The principal aim of RE is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.

PSHE

Our goal is for pupils to have the knowledge and skills they require in order to make safe decisions now and in the future.

We aim for our pupils to develop knowledge, vocabulary and confidence to be able to communicate any safeguarding issues and to develop an understanding of previous or potential life experiences.

Maths

Our goal is for all of children to leave school as mathematicians, confident in their own ability.

We want them to become fluent in the fundamentals of maths.

To prepare them for the world we aim for them to:

- *apply their knowledge accurately
- *reason mathematically using mathematical language
- *become problem solvers

Physical education

Our goal is to ensure that every child has the opportunity to take part in physical activity and are exposed to high quality PE lessons.

We want all children to develop their physical literacy and work on our core values of respect, responsibility and resilience.

Music

By the end of their time at Downsell, we aim to provide pupils with a range of musical experiences and to foster a lifelong love of music. We want to ensure that children have opportunities to sing and play instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

Computing

Our goal is to give children the necessary skills needed to become good digital citizens.

To prepare them (pupils) to live safely in an increasingly digital British society, where they can evaluate and apply IT to solve problems.

Art

We want to develop children's appreciation for the world of arts; showing that they too can develop their skills and become artists too.

Our aim is for our children to have opportunities to be creative and experiment; having the confidence to create and developing their

Design and Technology

Our goal is for our children to 'learn to think' creatively to solve practical problems now and for the future.