

METHERINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
OUR CURRICULUM RATIONALE

What is a Curriculum Rationale?

When a school has a rationale for its curriculum, it means that everyone involved with the school can answer the questions 'What is it we want for our children?' and 'What are we going to do to achieve it?'

Why is a Curriculum Rationale necessary?

It is important to ensure that everyone within the school is clear about what they are aiming to achieve through the curriculum, which is the totality of a child's experiences.

VISION, VALUES, AIMS AND GOLDEN THREADS/KEY DRIVERS

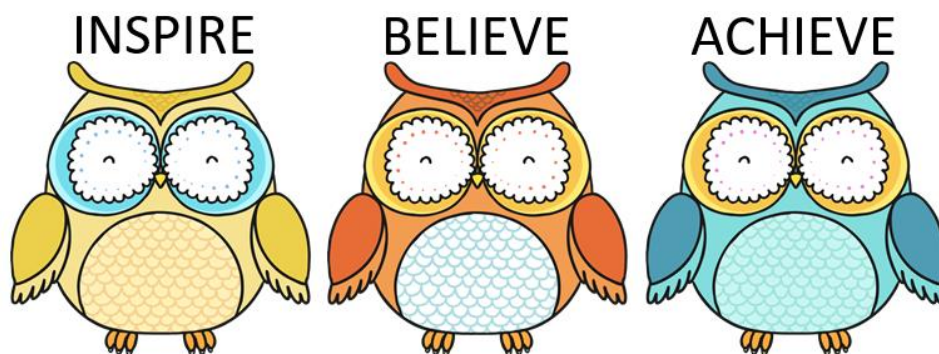
OUR VISION

- To inspire a lifelong love of learning, nurture well-being and empower our school community to thrive in the modern world and beyond

OUR AIMS

- To support children as independent learners and thinkers
- To provide a stimulating curriculum for all to discover
- To help children to value themselves and others
- To provide a happy, safe, secure and caring environment for all
- To raise aspirations and encourage children to shine
- To make learning purposeful and fun

GOLDEN THREADS/KEY DRIVERS THROUGH OUR CURRICULUM

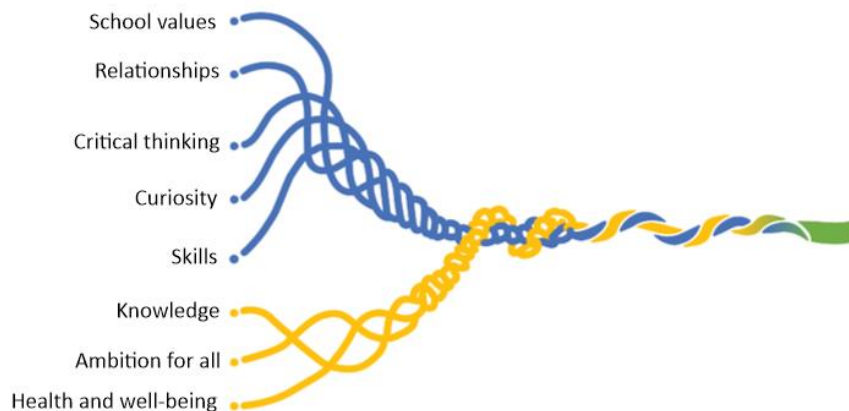


OUR VALUES

- Honesty
- Curiosity
- Kindness
- Pride
- Courage

Our vision, values, aims and Golden Threads have been created in collaboration with our children, staff and the wider school community. As a school, we regularly reflect on what they mean and how we can apply our vision, value and aims to our daily life in order to be the best that we can be. At Metheringham Primary School, we value our whole school community, and we believe it is a place where children, adults, families and professionals all learn together. With this in mind, we aim to... **'Inspire, Believe, Achieve'**.

INTENT - What we want to achieve



At Metheringham Primary School, our curriculum is rooted in our vision: *to inspire a lifelong love of learning, nurture well-being, and empower our school community to thrive in the modern world and beyond.*

We have thoughtfully designed our curriculum to ensure that all children develop the essential building blocks of knowledge, skills, and understanding. Equally, we equip them with the ability to communicate clearly, reason effectively, and think critically — preparing them for success in learning and life.

Our curriculum is underpinned by a strong set of core values: Honesty, Curiosity, Kindness, Pride, and Courage. These values guide all we do and reflect our ambition to develop responsible, respectful, and reflective individuals. They complement and embody the fundamental British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect, and Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs — ensuring our children grow into thoughtful, engaged citizens.

We place great importance on developing the whole child — emotionally, physically, academically, socially, morally, spiritually, and culturally. Our curriculum provides rich and varied opportunities for children to understand themselves and others, to celebrate diversity, and to build positive, meaningful relationships within school and in the wider world.

At Metheringham, we believe every child deserves an ambitious and inclusive curriculum, regardless of background or need. Our curriculum is designed to be accessible for all learners, including those with SEND and those from disadvantaged backgrounds, enabling every child to discover their strengths, raise their aspirations, and truly shine.

IMPLEMENTATION - How we are going to achieve it

At Metheringham Primary School, our knowledge-rich, values-led curriculum is carefully designed and delivered to meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum 2014, while reflecting our own vision: *to inspire a lifelong love of learning, nurture well-being, and empower our school community to thrive in the modern world and beyond.* Our staff have developed detailed curriculum maps from EYFS to Year 6 that not only ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum but also stimulate curiosity, enthusiasm, and a love for learning. The curriculum is delivered on a two-year rolling cycle, regularly reviewed and refined to meet new directives and the evolving needs of our pupils. We structure learning so that declarative knowledge (factual content stored in long-term memory) and procedural knowledge (knowing how to do things) are taught progressively, allowing pupils to build and embed knowledge over time. This progression ensures that learning is revisited and retained, and meaningful connections between subjects are made.

Tailored to Our Learners

Behind every curriculum decision is a deep understanding of our children — their starting points in Early Years, their developing needs in KS1 and KS2, and their unique strengths and challenges. Learning builds on prior knowledge and aims to:

- Promote strong speaking, listening, reasoning, and wider oracy skills
- Enrich vocabulary across all curriculum areas
- Foster reflection and metacognition through opportunities to revisit and evaluate learning

We make learning purposeful and fun, with each new topic launched through engaging ‘hook’ activities that spark interest and curiosity. Learning is shared with families through each child’s personal Seesaw account, strengthening the link between school and home.

Embedding Values, Building Character

Our school values — Honesty, Curiosity, Kindness, Pride, and Courage — are woven through all aspects of the curriculum. Through this, we nurture the social and emotional development of our pupils, shaping how they behave, how they relate to others, and how they feel about themselves and their learning.

We understand that well-being and mental health are essential to effective learning. Therefore, the curriculum includes:

- Activities that support emotional regulation, self-reflection, and resilience
- Lessons and experiences that promote a healthy body and mind
- Opportunities to develop a 'can do' attitude, self-motivation, and aspirations for the future

Bringing Learning to Life

Our curriculum is enriched with real-world experiences that broaden horizons and deepen understanding. We offer:

- Visits to local landmarks such as the village library, promoting pride in the community and care for the environment
- Educational trips such as Metheringham Airfield, offering historical context and insight into community heritage
- Residential visits, guest speakers, and cultural or environmental outings, helping children experience what may be outside their everyday reach

These experiences not only enhance subject knowledge but build confidence, teamwork, and a sense of belonging in both local and wider contexts.

Learners Today, Citizens Tomorrow

At the heart of our implementation is the commitment to developing children who are independent, motivated learners with a strong sense of responsibility for themselves and their world. We want every child at Metheringham to feel:

- Capable and confident in their learning
- Equipped with the skills and attitudes they need to thrive
- Inspired to aim high and pursue their ambitions

By combining academic rigour with emotional, social, and cultural growth, our curriculum helps every child shine brightly and move forward with confidence.

IMPACT - How will we know we have achieved

At Metheringham Primary School, the impact of our curriculum is evident not only in the academic progress our pupils make, but also in the well-rounded, responsible individuals they become. We strive to ensure that all children achieve their potential, taking into account their individual starting points and needs. Attainment across both core and foundation subjects is carefully monitored using a range of assessment strategies, always considering age-related expectations. Our ultimate aim is for children to leave our school fully prepared for the next stage in their education and for life in modern Britain and the wider world. We want our learners to be confident, curious, and independent thinkers who show kindness and courage in their actions, and who take pride in their achievements. The values of honesty, curiosity, kindness, pride, and courage are embedded throughout school life and guide children's behaviour, decision-making, and relationships. We see the impact of this not only in children's work, but in the way they conduct themselves around school—in the playground, in classrooms, and in the many responsibilities they take on as part of our school community. Our curriculum helps children develop a strong personal sense of morality, enabling them to distinguish right from wrong, make principled choices, and act with integrity. They become resilient, motivated learners who rise to challenges, support others, and aspire to be their best. Ultimately, we know our curriculum has been successful when our pupils leave Metheringham inspired to keep learning, believing in themselves, and ready to achieve in all aspects of life.