

# Curriculum Policy



Little Lambs  
NURSERY



SUTTON VALENCE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

This Policy applies to Sutton Valence School (including, as the context requires, the Little Lambs Nursery, the Pre-Preparatory School and the Preparatory School).

The prime aim of the curriculum is to provide full-time supervised education for pupils aged 2 to 11, which gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, PSHE, physical and aesthetic and creative education, in order to pursue high individual achievement. The core skills of speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy are emphasised. The principal language of instruction is English. The curriculum is balanced and does not undermine British values. We also emphasise achievement in its broadest sense - whether pupils are studying academic subjects, sport, music, drama or art, developing a sensitivity to other people and the environment, gaining knowledge and skills for adult life, or developing responsibility and confidence to make informed decisions about their lives. We aim to challenge our pupils and give them opportunities for independent learning through a broad and balanced curriculum. The School develops the individual and prepares pupils for the next stages of education and beyond.

Our curriculum aims to:

- be balanced and broadly based;
- provide equal access and opportunity;
- offer effective preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society;
- ensure progression and continuity;
- provide appropriate differentiated support for pupils, including those with special educational needs, both for the less able and stretch and challenge for the More Able.

Please also see the schemes of work for P4L.

## **Subjects**

Over their time at our Schools, the pupils will study the following academic subjects:

English  
Science

Mathematics

[These core subjects jointly take up approximately half of the children's curriculum time.]

French  
History  
Religious Studies

Spanish (Year 6)  
Geography

The following subjects are also studied:

Music	Art
Design Technology	ICT
Physical Education	Games
Drama	PSHE

There are separate departmental handbooks available to all teaching staff. They cover the full range of the curriculum and include the aims of all academic and non-academic subjects, resources, teaching strategies and pupil activities. Departmental handbooks contain planning and schemes of work for all teaching within each department. As a rule, individual teachers are responsible for the production of their own schemes of work in consultation with the heads of department.

Delivery of the curriculum in Sutton Valence Preparatory School is mainly based in Years 3 and 4 in Form Rooms. From Year 5 onwards, the pupils receive more teaching from subject specialists and move each period to the relevant teaching rooms.

Setting begins for Maths, as appropriate, from Year 3 onwards. Setting arrangements are reviewed every term as we recognise that children's learning needs do not remain static over time.

## **Examinations**

Children are carefully prepared for the Kent 11+ tests and entry examinations to individual schools. Sutton Valence Preparatory School also runs internal examinations, CAT 4 Tests and GL Assessment Testing.

Teaching takes into account the following examinations, depending on the route a child is taking.

## **Year 6**

### **11+ Entrance Exams**

In our area, no schools use the Common Entrance 11+ examinations, so these are rarely set as full mocks. Children sitting the ISEB Pre Test for Sutton Valence School (SVS) use the BOFA programme as familiarisation as the format is similar to that of the SVS entrance examinations. (ISEB Pre Test)

### **Kent 11+ Tests**

A significant number of our pupils sit the Kent 11+ tests for admission to grammar schools. These usually take place in September, and our pupils receive appropriate preparation in verbal reasoning, non-verbal reasoning, English and Mathematics. Children use the BOFA programme and also familiarise themselves with hard copy papers.

### **Other External Exam and Scholarship Examinations**

Details of these are available from the Academic Deputy Head, who has responsibility for making sure individual examination information is available to teaching staff. Appropriate preparation and support takes place in advance of any scholarship applications.

### **Pre-Prep**

Delivery of the curriculum is primarily Form-based throughout the School with a certain amount of movement to specialist teaching and rooms.

The Early Years Foundation Stage follows the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage documentation introduced in September 2023 and Development Matters in EYFS 2020. For pupils ages 2-3 the school will complete the necessary progress check once they are settled in accordance with the EYFS. A review of the pupil's progress will take place with parents and/or carers which might include the Head of Learning Support if required. On leaving the Foundation Stage at the end of Reception, a child is assessed against the Early Learning Goals in all seven areas. Parents will be informed if their child is emerging, expected or exceeding in each area, including an additional section of The Characteristics of Learning, this will be reported in the summer term report. Years 1 and 2 follow the National Curriculum and consolidate and extend as appropriate, using a range of sources.

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