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Curriculum Statement

In September 2022 we will begin using the new Curriculum for Wales (CFW) https://gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales. We have produced this statement to explain the process we went through to develop the new curriculum in our school and how we will implement and review it. As we start to work with the curriculum we will continue to consult with the school community and adapt it as we learn from what is working well.

Who was involved in the development of the curriculum?

The first step in implementing CFW was to work with the school community to create a vision for how it will work at Radnor.

All members of our school community (children, parents, governors and staff) were invited to take part in shaping our vision for CfW and all groups were represented. The process began with our leadership team and staff who shaped a draft document. This was then shared with governors during an INSET day, where they offered their thoughts and ideas.

The children were consulted, adding their well considered opinions. Parents were involved through a homework task where we invited children and parents to work together to share their thoughts. Alongside this, virtual meetings with a working party of children took place and a child friendly version of the document was created and then work was undertaken to ensure that the content and philosophy of both documents were consistent. The final versions of our school's vision for CfW was shared with stakeholders via our school website https://www.radnorprimaryschool.co.uk/our-curriculum

What does the vision for the curriculum do?

Our school vision ensures that all teaching is purposeful, interesting and meets the needs of our children and the mandatory requirements of CfW https://gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales. It has guided our curriculum design and ensured focus on the underlying principles of the new curriculum. These are:-

- The Core Purposes
- The Areas of Learning

- The What Matters statements within the AoLEs (Areas of Learning and Experience)
- The Progression Steps within the AoLEs
- The Pedagogical Principles
- The cross curricular responsibilities, within the context of our school

Our vision played an integral part in the process of constructing our planning documents and this will aid staff in planning activities that are in line with our vision. Learners are enabled to share their ideas, both formally and informally. Learning is planned by teachers and influenced by learners.

What will the new curriculum do?

The Curriculum for Wales which we've developed at Radnor is designed to meet the needs of all of our learners, so that it enables our children and our staff to be the best that they can be. The key elements of the new Curriculum for Wales will be integral to our curriculum. The Core Purposes are at the heart of all learning and these are intertwined with the unique characteristics of Radnor Primary School. Our curriculum will be broad and balanced, flexible and responsive to evolving needs and opportunities. It will provide a range of experiences across all AoLEs and the concepts within the What Matters statements. Regular evaluations of learning will take place so that children make appropriate progress in line with progression steps. Our curriculum will require planning for the mandatory elements of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE), Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE), Welsh and English as well as the cross curricular skills identified in the Literacy and Numeracy framework (LNF) and the Digital Competency Framework (DCF) to ensure that they form an integral part of learning.

How will we monitor learners' progress with the new curriculum?

As a school we understand that we have a responsibility to both enable and ensure that our children make appropriate progress. We know that regular assessments, which are then used to shape how we deliver the curriculum, are key to this progress. Our vision of promoting continual learning is supported by the explicit descriptions of progression outlined in our planning documents and these apply to all of our learners.

Termly and weekly planning documents identify opportunities for baseline and progress assessments, for individuals and groups. The philosophy and practice of our current curriculum which has a focus on 'next steps in learning' will continue with CfW.

We recognise that some children's learning will require further support to enable them to move forward while some will require further challenge. It is our strong intention that our curriculum will meet all of these needs. We will assess progress of learners using at a wide range of evidence, including evidence from support staff. We will always require the children's own assessment of their learning to be a part of the process, including identifying their next steps. We recognise that for this process to be fully effective assessment information must be shared with parents, particularly when support at home is needed.

How will we monitor the effectiveness of the new curriculum?

As a school we have a shared understanding that designing and implementing the CfW is an ongoing process which is open to review and adaptation. We plan to

continue to engage in self evaluation exercises throughout the year that will assess the appropriateness and effectiveness of our curriculum and to make changes as required.

We will work with stakeholders (staff, governors, parents, community) to identify and implement any necessary changes for our school. We will also work with a range of external partners - our cluster of local schools, School Improvement Group, Central South Consortium, Cardiff Council, collaboration partners, research groups and Initial Teacher Training (ITE) - to learn from them. By drawing on our own learning and the expertise of this wide range of stakeholders and partners we aim to make our curriculum a seamless, high quality and effective one that ensures success for all our children.