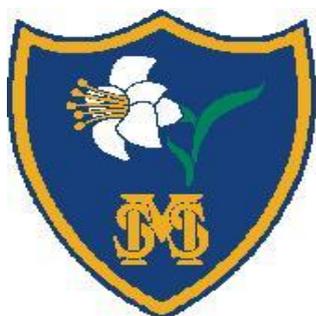


Haddenham St Mary's CE School



LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM POLICY

Date agreed by Curriculum Committee	03 May 2012
Date to be reviewed (<i>maximum 36 months after date above</i>)	May 2015
Date adopted by Governing Body	08 May 2012
Governors Committee accountable for review	Curriculum
Staff member accountable for review	Headteacher
Governor accountable for monitoring	PHSE Governor

Rationale

Our school considers it vital that we maintain a broad and balanced curriculum. This includes ensuring that pupils have opportunity to experience firsthand and participate in activities outside the classroom. We are part of a vibrant and lively community and encourage all classes to take part in that community as well as inviting members of the community into our school. Our school grounds provide rich opportunities to engage all pupils effectively in understanding about sustainability and the environment. Visits outside of school, are built into our curriculum and enhance children's learning.

Aims

- To introduce pupils to a range of new experiences
- To develop the curriculum through using the local environment and community
- To offer pupils exciting and stimulating experiences that enthuse them in their learning
- To develop self-esteem through providing a range of opportunities for pupils to excel

Learning outside the classroom – opportunities offered at Haddenham St Mary's:

All pupils offered the opportunity to experience trips/ visits
All topics taught are supported by visits and/ or visitors
All pupils have the opportunity to enhance learning through use of school grounds
All pupils offered the opportunity to visit community buildings and use community resources
All pupils have opportunity to participate in school productions
All pupils have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities.

We will aim to deliver these opportunities through:

Trips and visits

These will be included in the year groups' curriculum plans and will support and expand opportunities for teaching and learning. Trips and visits should:

- Be part of the curriculum and enhance teaching and learning
- Provide hands-on, stimulating opportunities for pupils
- Be with quality badge providers wherever possible
- Help develop pupils social skills and self-esteem

A risk-assessment and educational visit pack will be completed for every visit in accordance with school policy. All new venues must be visited prior to the visit by the lead teacher. All adults accompanying a visit will have an appropriate police check.

Use of the school grounds

The school grounds are a resource for use by all the school. We aim to use them as frequently as possible:

- As a planned resource within the curriculum e.g. 'habitats'
- As a resource to support all curriculum areas e.g. for sketching in art, a stimulus for writing activities
- Supporting our healthy schools initiatives e.g. gardening club, cookery, sustainability initiatives
- Opening it up for events and welcoming its use by members of the community

The local community

All classes are encouraged to visit and make use of local community resources through:

- Visiting religious and community buildings, including churches, museums, parks, libraries

- Taking part in local festivals and events
- Fostering links with local clubs and societies

Participating in productions

All pupils will have the opportunity to participate in school productions. Examples include:

- Class and whole school assemblies
- Harvest festivals, Christmas concerts or other special occasions

It is expected that pupils will have additional opportunities contribute to assemblies through providing feedback about trips, visits and other school events.

Pupils who play a musical instrument may have further opportunities to play during assemblies and/ or to accompany other events.

Extra-curricular activities

A range of after-school activities are provided on a weekly basis. These are led by school staff or external clubs. The programme changes to reflect the seasons and the availability of staff. A timetable is circulated at the end of each half term with details of the clubs, their time and location. Consideration is made as to:

- The interests of the pupils at the school
- The facilities available
- Links with the local community
- Expertise of parents and other adults associated with the school
- The needs of all groups of pupils
- The balance and range of activities available

Separate guidance is available for club leaders including health and safety, contact numbers and term dates. Attendance at clubs is monitored to ensure that clubs are accessible to all our pupils.

Monitoring and evaluation

This will include monitoring of:

- trips, visits and visitors
- use of school grounds
- uptake of cross-curricular opportunities
- participation of pupils in productions and special events

It is essential that teachers ensure that:

- All pupils are given equal opportunity to participate in cross-curricular opportunities
- All pupils are fully able to participate in trips and visits.
- Learning outside the classroom experiences support and develop curriculum plans and are evaluated for their effectiveness

Linked policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Educational visits guidance
- Curriculum policy
- PSHCE policy