Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview 2026-2027

Our Year ahead

Welcome to Dahl Class! This year, Miss Cocks, Mrs Wyke and Mrs Lowthian are looking forward to inspiring and supporting our Year 1 and Year 2 children through an exciting, broad and knowledge-rich curriculum.

We have lots of fascinating topics to look forward to, which will deepen our knowledge, spark curiosity and encourage us to explore the world around us, building on the wonderful foundations established during EYFS. In History, we will be exploring family history, discovering how life has changed over time and developing an understanding of the past. In Geography, we will investigate the human and physical features of our local area before broadening our horizons to explore places around the world. Our Science learning will encourage us to become curious investigators as we explore plants, discover how they grow and develop our understanding of the natural world.

Religious Education remains at the heart of everything we do in Dahl Class. We will continue to follow the new Religious Education Curriculum Directory helping children to deepen their understanding of their faith and grow in their relationship with God. We will also use Life to the Full to deliver our important Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RHSE) curriculum.

In English, we will continue to develop our phonics knowledge through the Read Write Inc. programme, alongside engaging, book-based literacy lessons. Through carefully chosen texts, children will develop their reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, while nurturing a lifelong love of reading.

In Maths, our Power Maths programme will challenge children to think deeply, explain their reasoning and apply their mathematical knowledge to solve problems with increasing confidence and independence.

Our curriculum is further enriched through regular Forest School sessions, which promote self-esteem, creativity, confidence, resilience and independence. These sessions provide opportunities for child-led exploration, supported risk-taking, teamwork and outdoor learning. Of course, there is always the added excitement of hot chocolate and marshmallows around the campfire!

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, exploring and growing together in Dahl Class, where every child is encouraged to be curious, confident and the very best they can be.

The Dahl Class Team

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Religious Education

Caritas in Action

We start of every term focusing on a unit from Caritas in Action. Through this, we learn that everyone matters and we are all equal in God's eyes .People matter more than possessions. We are a family and community-how can we build up the Kingdom of God. Happiness-how do we achieve it?

Autumn 1

Branch One: Creation and Covenant

The focus of this unit is revelation. We will consider how the world exists and how all that is came to be. We learn about our responsibilities to care for the world.

Autumn 2

Branch Two: Prophecy and Promise

We will learn that God sowed us he loves us by sending Jesus his son. We learn about the story of Advent and the true meaning of Christmas.

Spring 1

Branch Three: Galilee to Jerusalem

In this unit, we will hear that through the work of Jesus, those who encountered him recognised he was the son of God. We will study many key texts from the Bible and learn how Christins are called to follow Jesus and Sare the Good News with others.

Spring 2

Branch Four: Desert to Garden

We will learn about the season of Lent as a time to prepare for Easter and to know the story of the last week of Jesus' life, his death and resurrection. We will practice fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

Summer 1

Branch Five: To Ends of the Earth

In this unit children will hear the story of the Road to Emmaus, the Ascension and Pentecost. We will focus on the mystery of the Holy Trinity and how it is central to Christian Faith.

Summer 2

Branch six: Dialogue and Encounter

We will explore our local Parish and how the Church is the community of all those who belong to Christ. We will explore modern Jewish life in Britain.

Celebration of the Word

We prayer together each day in our class worship-spending time being still and developing our personal relationship with Christ.

On Monday's we come together as a whole school to celebrate our Faith, consider ways we can contribute to school life during the week ahead and aspire to be like Christ in our work and play.

Wednesday Word is a chance for us to share the Gospel prior to Sunday, discuss it with each other and develop a deeper understanding. A child carries the light candle, a symbol of Jesus as light of the world, another child carries the cross, and another child carries and reads the gospel.

On Friday we come together once again for our celebration Worship where we reflect on the week and acknowledge our achievements. We award the Headteacher's Award in each year group.

Each child has the opportunity to prepare a worship for their class using music to call their friends to worship, reading the word and giving the class something to take away and use in their everyday life.

Weekly hymn practice gives us the opportunity to pray through song with the rest of our St Joseph's family. How wonderful!

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

KS1 Module One: Created and Loved by God explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that **we are created by God out of love and for love.**, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships

HRSE

Unit 1 – Religious Understanding introduces children to the story from the Gospel of Matthew, when Jesus welcomed all of the little children to come to Him.

Building on this knowledge, Unit 2 – Me, My Body, My Health encourages children to celebrate similarities and differences between people, including our God-given bodies and the things they enable us to do! Teaching also includes maintaining personal hygiene and the physical differences between boys and girls. Unit 3 – Emotional Well-Being, children will meet presenters Jayden and Josie and fictional character Super Susie. They will help children to understand and articulate their own changing feelings and how other people's feelings might differ from theirs. Children will learn how they can manage their feelings and about the consequences of their actions. Unit 4 – Life Cycles returns to the Gospel story from Unit 1, to show that God created us to follow the cycle of life and He loves us at every stage. Children will learn about the specifics of the human life cycle and celebrate how they have already changed and grown.

KS1 Module 2: Created to Love Others explores the individual's relationship with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love, this module explores how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe:

Unit 1 – Religious Understanding begins with an adapted version of the Prodigal Son story to show children that God loves us, and nothing we can do will stop Him from loving us. **Unit 2 – Personal Relationships** children once again meet Super Susie, who helps them to identify the 'special people' in their lives who they love and can trust. In further sessions, children will learn how to cope with various social situations and dilemmas, and the importance of saying sorry and forgiveness within relationships. **Unit 3 – Keeping Safe**, Super Susie helps children to tell the difference between good and bad secrets. This unit also explores the risks of being online by incorporating the 'Smartie the Penguin' resources from Childnet, and teaching on physical boundaries, incorporating the PANTS resource by the NSPCC. Through the animated expert Dr Datfa, children will also learn about the effects of harmful substances (including alcohol and tobacco), some basic First Aid, what makes a 999 emergency and what they should do if in an emergency situation.

KS1 Module Three: Created to Live in Community explores the individual's relationship with the wider world. Here we explore how human beings are relational by nature and are called to love others in the wider community through service, through dialogue and through working for the Common Good:

Unit 1 – Religious Understanding children will hear the story of The Good Samaritan and will be introduced to the concept of the Trinity – God as a three in one community of love – and think about what the Trinity means for them. This is a simple teaching that we will return to in more complexity in later years. These stories show children that God made us to be in loving relationships with one another. **Unit 2 – Living in the Wider World** helps children to learn about the different local and global communities that they are part of, and what rights and responsibilities come with belonging to these communities.

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

English

Early Reading & Writing

Read Write Inc. is the phonics programme we use in school in order to teach children to read and write fluently and confidently. Red Rose is a method of learning centred around letter sounds and phonics, blending them together to read and write words and using these learnt sounds when reading and writing.

Reading

When learning to read through phonics, the children will:

- Learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts.
- Learn to read words using sound blending.
- Read lively stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out.
- Show that they comprehend the stories by answering 'find it' and 'prove it' discussion questions.

Writing

When learning to write, the children will:

- Learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds.
- Learn to write words by saying the sounds and graphemes (Fred fingers)
- Learn to write simple then more complex sentences.

Guided Reading

Once children have completed their phonics learning they will take part in regular guided reading sessions throughout the week. We unpick vocabulary and work on comprehension, inference and deduction skills using VIPERS as a model. We work on innotation and posody through coral reading.

Phonics takes place every day for 30 minutes and the children work whole class so that the teacher has responsibility for each child's learning. Weekly spelling tests are sent home based on current learning and Accelerated Reader is used to support and promote engagement in reading for children ready to access story books (alongside decodable books at a suitable level).

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

English

Reading	**Guided Reading and phonics** Children take home 'Book Bag Books' linked to their phonics reading level.	**Class Novel Autumn** Isadora Moon goes to School by Harriet Muncaster	**Class Novel Spring** Sheep School by Ross Montgomery	**Class Novel Summer** The Sports Day Chicken by Pamela Butchart	**Reading in School** The children will read every day as part of their Phonics lesson. Outside of this we endeavour to listen to your child read once a week.	**Reading for Pleasure** Children are encouraged to read for pleasure from a range of books in the classroom that we have explored together as a class. . They also choose books for home reading from their ZPD range.
Writing	**Pathways to Writing** Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers Adventure Story	**Pathways to Writing** Nibbles The Book Monster by Emma Yarlett Diary Entry	**Pathways to Writing** The Lion Inside by Rachel Bright and Jim Field Fiction - Journey	**Pathways to Writing** The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth by Ellie Hattie & Karl James Mountford Fiction – Story	**Pathways to Writing** Somebody Swallowed Stanley by Sarah Roberts Information Text	**Pathways to Writing** Goldilocks and Just the One Bear by Leigh Hodkinson Fiction - Story
Grammar and Punctuation*	Autumn 1 We will be finding out about nouns, vowels and consonants, demarcating sentences and punctuating sentences. Expanded noun phrases, co-ordination and subordination.	Autumn 2 Adjectives, capital letters for the names of people and places, co-ordination, commas in a list and turning verbs into adverbs with 'ly'.	Spring 1 Noun phrases, homophones, forming adjectives using –ful and –less, questions and commands and sentence writing.	Spring 2 Question marks and exclamation marks, suffixes -ed, -ing, -er, - est, past and present tense, subordination and apostrophes for possession.	Summer 1 Punctuating sentences correctly, suffixes -ed, -ing, -er, - est, adding prefix un to verbs and adjectives, adding -er and -est to adjectives and apostrophes for contraction.	Summer 2 Punctuation sentences correctly, co-ordination, subordination, expanded noun phrases, past and present tense and suffixes -ment and -ful.

Handwriting and presentation

Children practise handwriting every day: sitting at a table comfortably, they learn correct letter formation and how to join letters speedily and legibly. We teach pre-cursive writing.

Spelling

Each week children will learn a new spelling rule. These will be taught in specific lessons and children will be encouraged to use these rules in their writing. Homework sheets supporting these rules will be sent home of the children to complete.

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Maths

Year 1 Maths Overview

Term	Unit	Strand
Autumn Textbook A	**Unit 1**	Number and place value
	Unit 2	Number and place value
	Unit 3	Number - Addition & subtraction
	Unit 4	Number - Addition & subtraction
	Unit 5	Geometry – property of shape
	Unit 6	Number and place value
Spring Textbook B	**Unit 7**	Number - Addition & subtraction
	Unit 8	Number - Addition & subtraction
	Unit 9	Number and place value
	Unit 10	Measurement – introducing length and height
	Unit 11	Measurement – introducing weight and volume
Summer Textbook C	**Unit 12**	Number – multiplication and division
	Unit 13	Number – multiplication and division
	Unit 14	Number - fractions
	Unit 15	Geometry: position and direction
	Unit 16	Number – number and place value
	Unit 17	Measurement - time
	Unit 18	Measurement - money

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Maths

Year 2 Maths Overview

Term	Unit	Strand
Autumn **Textbook** **A**	**Unit 1**	Number – number and place value
	Unit 2	Number – addition and subtraction
	Unit 3	Number – addition and subtraction
	Unit 4	Measurement - money
	Unit 5	Number - multiplication and division
Spring **Textbook** **B**	**Unit 6**	Number - multiplication and division
	Unit 7	Statistics
	Unit 8	Measurement – length and height
	Unit 9	Geometry – properties of shapes
	Unit 10	Number - fractions
Summer **Textbook** **C**	**Unit 11**	Geometry: position and direction
	Unit 12	Number – addition and subtraction
	Unit 13	Measurement - time
	Unit 14	Measurement – weight, volume and temperature

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Science

Plants

The children will identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees and identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

Plant Growth

Understand how plants grow from seeds, and require water, light and a suitable temperature. Children will have the opportunity to dissect seeds and grow their own plants in their chosen environment.

Animals

Pupils will explore a range of animals to be able to classify and name reptiles, fish, amphibians, birds and mammals; carnivores, herbivores, omnivores.

Needs of Animals

Investigate and explore what an animal needs to survive. Compare the differences and similarities in different animals. Children will learn that animals need water, food and air to survive and to have offspring.

Living things and their habitats

Children will explore and investigate different habitats, micro-habitats, and will begin to understand a simple food chain and how this works to support our natural environment.

Seasonal change & our local area

Throughout the year, children will observe changes across the 4 seasons by going for monthly meanders in our local area. We will also visit our school allotment regularly to plant and harvest crops to support our learning.

Working scientifically

Throughout all our units of work the children will get the opportunity to work scientifically by:

- asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways
- observing closely, using simple equipment
- performing simple tests
- identifying and classifying
- using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
- gathering and recording data to help in answering questions

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Computing

We teach computing through the key areas of Computing Systems and Networks, Programming, Creating Media, Data Handling. Throughout each unit of work we deliver online safety lessons to support children's understanding of keeping safe online.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Online safety – Using the internet safely and online emotions.	Online safety – Always be kind and considerate and posting and sharing online	Online safety – how much time should we spend online?
Computer Systems: What is a computer 1 Introducing what computers are and how to use them, including logging in, using programs and saving work.	**Programming: Algorithms and debugging** A range of unplugged and online game activities to explore algorithms and debugging.	**Creating Media: Digital Designers 1** Using digital tools to create digital content including drawings, texts and recordings.

Music

Rhyming in time

Children will learn to move in time with a beat/pulse to different tempos and learn to chant, rap and sing using different voices.

Exploring Rhythm Patterns

Children will learn that ostinato is a repeated pattern and they will copy and create their own simple rhythm patterns.

Highs and Lows

Children will explore the difference between a rhythm and pitch pattern and will learn to identify different pitches.

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Design Technology

Food Design – Salads

The children will get the opportunity to explore different healthy foods, learn why they are healthy and then prepare a healthy, balanced salad that include proteins. They will be able to taste, smell and feel the texture of different foods before designing and making their own salad.

Wheels and Axels

This is an introduction to Introduction to wheels and axles. The children will be set a Vehicle Design Challenge in which they have to design, prototype and test a vehicle model to travel the furthest.

Glove Puppets

An introduction to textiles and basic sewing techniques. Where the children will be able to design and make their own glove puppet.

Art

Self portraits

We will explore famous artists and their self-portraits before challenging ourselves to explore different pencils and paints as well as the medium of collage to create their own artwork.

Paper Art

We will turn everyday paper into spectacular arts and crafts projects. We will investigate different types of paper and explore their different textures and features, before using a variety of techniques to create artwork from paper.

Super sculptures

We will learn all about the work of a range of well-known sculptors with these five Art sculpture lessons for Year 2 children. Describe and respond to images of sculptures included in all five colourful sets of slides! Use a range of materials to create sculptures inspired by famous works of art, or create giant sculptures with groups or your whole class!

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Physical Education

Autumn

The children will be developing their fundamental movement skills through our exciting Supertato activities, focusing on balance, coordination, running, jumping and moving with control. They will also be practicing their ball skills, learning to catch, throw and bounce a ball with increasing confidence and accuracy.

During swimming sessions, children will develop their water confidence, practise basic swimming techniques and learn how to stay safe in the water.

Spring

The children will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills through our exciting Zog-themed activities, focusing on balance, coordination, agility and moving with control. They will also be developing their kicking skills, learning to control, pass and aim a ball with increasing accuracy and confidence. In gymnastics, children will explore different ways of travelling, balancing, rolling and creating simple sequences of movements.

Summer

The children will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills through our exciting Supertato and Jack and the Beanstalk themed activities, focusing on balance, coordination, agility and movement control. Through our Great Outdoors unit, children will take part in outdoor adventurous activities, developing their problem-solving, teamwork and communication skills. In athletics, they will practise running, jumping and throwing, aiming to improve their speed, distance and accuracy.

The Golden Mile

By walking, jogging and running around the school playground on a regular basis, we aim to improve our physical health and wellbeing.

Forest Schools

Forest School is a child-centred inspirational learning process that offers opportunities for developing confidence and self-esteem through learner inspired, hands-on experiences in a natural setting. Our secret garden outdoor area is the perfect setting for our children to explore.

Enrichment

Throughout the school year, our children are given opportunities to develop talents/skills through our after school clubs. There are also sports competitions forging links with other schools and improving confidence and self-esteem.

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

History

My Family History

This unit is an introduction to the past giving the children an opportunity to understand history within their living memory by exploring their family tree, and how schools, toys and the way we communicate have changed in living memory.

History of transport

We will explore the development of transport by land, sea, air and space over time and find out the roles of key individuals who made this happen.

Explorers & Victorian Seaside

The children will investigate the similarities and differences between the lives of Sacagawea and Michael Collins.

We will also look at how the seaside has changed over time by looking back at Blackpool in the Victorian era and comparing it to now.

Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview

Geography

Here I Am

We will be locating our school in our local area, and identifying local physical and human features on a map and during fieldwork. We will learn how to give clear directions and identify local amenities.

There You Are

We will be understanding where we live on the global scale; learning and locating continents; and comparing the human and physical features of an area in the UK with an area in Kenya.

Hot & Cold Deserts

The children will be locating hot and cold deserts across the world, and identifying common physical and human features in these different areas.