



Wearhead School **Curriculum Content & Approach**

Phonics and Reading

Our Early Year's staff approach the teaching of reading, initially through the understanding of phonics, and as such, have adopted the DfE's **Letters & Sounds scheme** along with the use of **Jolly Phonics**. Both schemes make full use of a multi - sensory approach, as all children learn through different mediums and at varying speeds.

Once individual letter sounds and names are known to a child, they can begin to blend and segment CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words. Progress beyond this (CVCCs etc) is assessed regularly along with the understanding and use of basic sight vocabulary.

We primarily use the **Oxford Reading Tree** scheme for early readers (purchased with funding from **pupil premium**), alongside our **Accelerated Reader** programme.

Curriculum Subjects

All children, from Reception to Y6, have access to the same curriculum subjects. These are as follows:

Numeracy

Literacy – including phonics

Science

Spanish (at KS2 only)

Computing

DT

Art

Music

Geography

History

PE

PSHCE (personal, social, health & citizenship education)

RE

Forest Schools

Literacy and Numeracy is split each day into a Reception & Y1 group with one teacher; Y2/3 with another staff member and Y5/6 with the third teacher. The same teacher will lead the Y2/3 and Y5/6 literacy group and likewise another member of staff will be responsible for the Y2/3 and Y5/6 numeracy groups. Both the literacy and numeracy resources used in lessons can be DfE publications, commercially based schemes (such as Teejay Maths) or resources that individual teachers have sourced or made themselves. Use is made of appropriate software on our interactive whiteboards, along with educational board games, DVDs, suitable sites on the internet and library books and artefacts.

PE and Sports Provision – all children receive a minimum 2 hours of high quality PE per week, taught by trained teachers. We have been active members of the Schools Sport Partnership for well over a decade and have in the past received the Activemark award three times. (this award no longer exists) We regularly participate in a number of festivals including gymnastics, Hi 5s netball, basketball, dance, multi sports, tennis, cricket and athletics. We also presently operate three after school clubs. In line with the coalition governments announcement of a substantial financial input into school sport and PE – both curricular and extracurricular – our school has bought into an enhanced Service Level Agreement for small schools in Weardale, which caters for staff training, improved resourcing, curriculum support in PE lessons, transport costs to sports events and small school festivals/competitions. This funding is available for the next two academic years.