



Hesketh-with-Becconsall All Saints Church of England Primary School

'What you are is God's gift to you, what you become is your gift to God.'

School Improvement Newsletter - Issue 6

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the sixth issue of our School Improvement Newsletter which focuses on our new Curriculum for Science, History, Geography, Art & Design Technology from Cornerstones.



Cornerstones

<https://hesketh-with-becconsall-all-saints-cofe-school.maestro.cornerstoneseducation.co.uk/>

From your welcome newsletters, conversations with teachers and the 'meet the teacher' presentations you many have seen how the Cornerstones Curriculum is being used in school. The use of this curriculum effectively answers Ofsted's school development point: *'Leaders must ensure that there is a suitably aspirational and well-ordered curriculum that enables pupils to build up a secure body of knowledge over time.'*

All the school team have worked hard on implementing the new curriculum and staff have been provided with training to access and adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of our learners using 'Curriculum Maestro'. Over the coming term Senior and Subject Leaders will be monitoring the curriculum's effectiveness in raising standards ensuring that children both *'know more and remember more'*.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

RS Ainsworth

Associate Headteacher

'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord... and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths.' Micah 4:2

Cornerstones Curriculum

We use Cornerstones Curriculum Maestro to provide a bespoke curriculum which is tailored to the needs, strengths and interests of our pupils and our school community.

Through a combination of learning techniques, we aim to ensure pupils enjoy learning and feel prepared for life after school. We recognise that pupils should be challenged in their schooling, learning from failures, and celebrating successes. We intend for our curriculum to be empowering, enabling pupils to develop their interpersonal skills, creativity, and independence.

We believe that children deserve a balanced curriculum that enables them to develop a deep understanding of all subjects and the interconnections between them. The rationale for the Cornerstones Curriculum takes the form of 10 big ideas that provide a purpose for the aspects, skills, knowledge, and contexts chosen to form the substance of the curriculum.

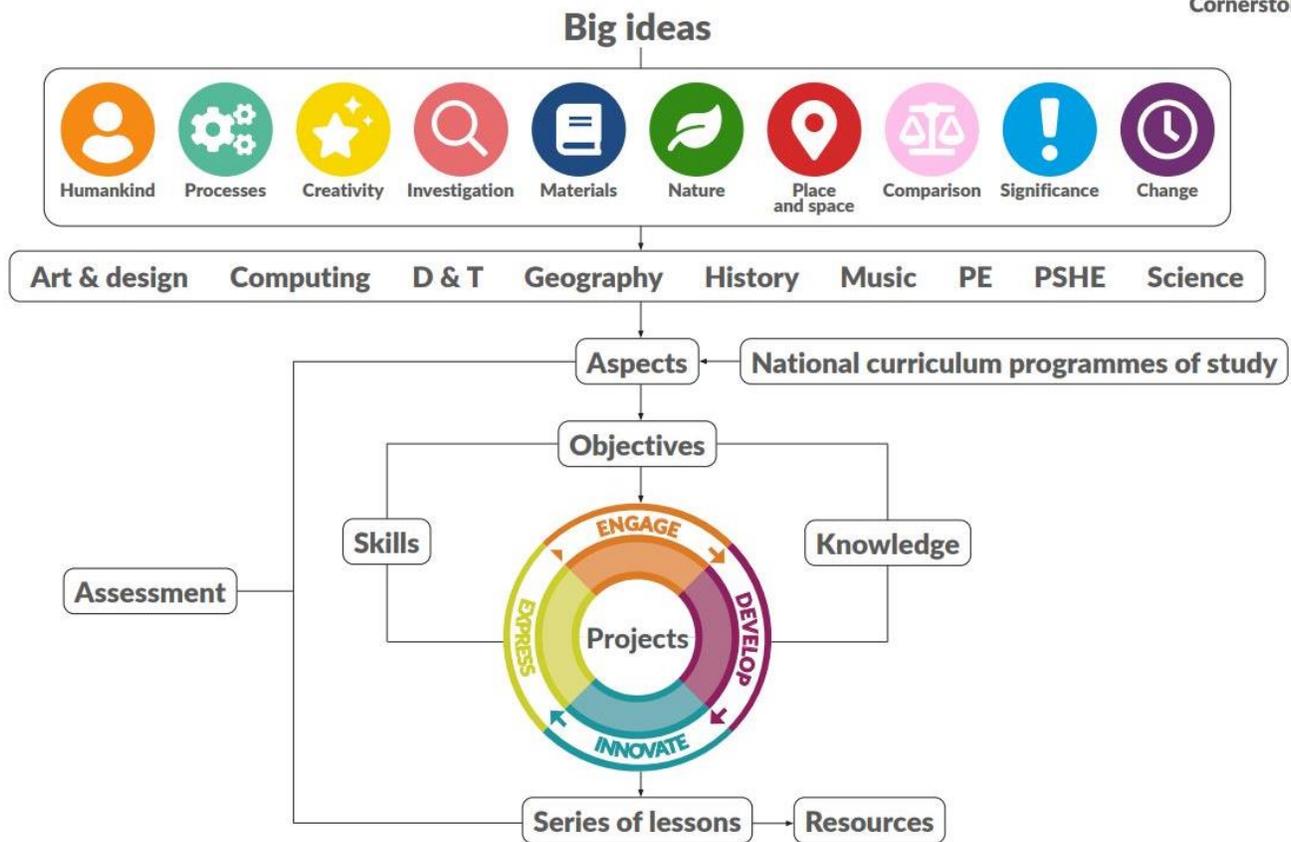
These big ideas form a series of multi-dimensional interconnected threads across the curriculum, allowing children to encounter and revisit their learning through a variety of subject lenses. Over time, these encounters help children to build conceptual frameworks that will enable a better understanding of increasingly sophisticated information and ideas.

The 10 Big Ideas

 Humankind Understanding what it means to be human and the cause and effect of human behaviour.	 Processes Understanding the many dynamic and physical processes that shape the world around us.	 Creativity Understanding how everyday and exceptional creativity can inspire and change perceptions.	 Investigation Understanding the importance of asking questions, formulating hypotheses, gathering information and analysing evidence.	 Materials Understanding the unique and physical properties of all matter and how we interact with them.
 Nature Understanding the complexities and interdependence of the plant and animal species that inhabit the world's many ecosystems.	 Place and space Understanding the visual, cultural, social and environmental aspects of different places around the world.	 Comparison Understanding how and why things are the same or different.	 Significance Understanding why significant people, places, events and inventions matter.	 Change Understanding why and how things have changed over time.

The 'Big Ideas' are then linked to the aspects within the National Curriculum and taught through a series of 'Projects'. In each project, the children **Engage** in, **Develop**, **Innovate** and **Express** their learning.

How does the Cornerstones Curriculum pull everything together?



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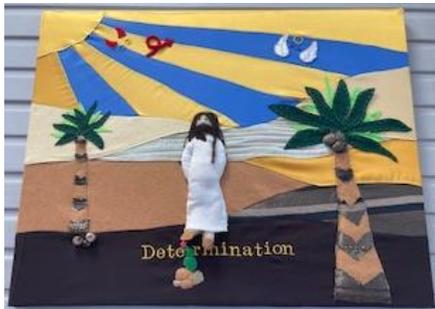
The Cornerstones Curriculum is used in three other schools in the Learning Together Trust so as we move forward on our journey to academisation it means that our methodology is aligning. However, even though the curriculum may share the same 'projects' the autonomy of how the projects are taught lies with the individual schools and reflects the uniqueness of each.

Parental Engagement

Thank you for the positive feedback regarding the 'welcome' newsletters, opportunities to visit the new learning environments and sharing of resources via Parent Mail e.g. the 'Meet the Teacher' presentations.

We hope that parents and carers in EYFS: Nursery & Reception and in Year 1 are enjoying their weekly learning updates every Friday. EYFS are also sharing 'Did you know? Let's explore..' activities from the Cornerstones Curriculum too to support children with their language development.

Displays in School



With the building work in school now completed it was delightful to display the school value canvases round the school hall and our new Worship Table focus board.



However, as anyone spotted the missing canvas? Which value is left to create? Hopefully this project will be completed over the coming weeks, in time for our **Open Day** on **All Saints Day**, Wednesday 1st November 2023. We also hope you spotted our new school sign on the front wall of school.



Little Saints Nursery

Little Saints Nursery had a makeover over the summer too, with a beautiful new floor from Ormskirk Carpets, and hard work from Mrs Woodfield and her family. It looks amazing!



Coming in Issue 7... Next steps in the Academisation process