Broad Hinton C of E Primary School Foundational Skills Progression

At Broad Hinton School, we believe that true academic success is built on a foundation of fundamental skills. Before children can thrive in complex subjects, they must master the basic building blocks of learning. We prioritize early, conceptual, and procedural mastery in key areas to ensure every child is confident, capable, and prepared for future learning.

Our curriculum focuses on developing these essential, transferable skills from day one.

Whole-school progression from Reception to Year 6

KEY PRINCIPLE: Foundational skills are taught, revisited, strengthened and applied throughout the primary years. The foundations do not disappear as pupils get older; they become increasingly sophisticated and embedded within subject learning.

CONCRETE ROOTS → RECEPTION
BUILD → YEARS 1–2
SECURE → YEARS 3–4
EXTEND and APPLY → YEARS 5–6

Foundational Strand	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Language and Communication	Listen, respond and speak in sentences Develop vocabulary	Speak clearly Use new vocabulary Listen and respond	Explain ideas Ask questions Use increasingly precise vocabulary	Explain and justify ideas Adapt language to context	Use subject-specific language Give detailed explanations	Use increasingly formal and precise language	Communicate confidently and appropriately for audience
Reading and Fluency	Hear and blend sounds Develop early reading behaviours	Secure decoding Develop accuracy and fluency	Read fluently with phrasing and expression Self-correct	Read increasingly complex texts accurately and fluently	Read widely Tackle unfamiliar vocabulary	Read critically across different text types	Read confidently to extract, compare and synthesise information

Vocabulary and Comprehension	Develop everyday vocabulary Discuss meaning	Learn new words Discuss meaning and context	Explore meanings, synonyms and vocabulary choices	Use context to work out unfamiliar words Make inferences	Develop subject-specific vocabulary Infer meaning	Understand nuanced vocabulary and figurative language	Interpret subtle meanings Select and use precise vocabulary
Writing and Transcription	Hold a pencil effectively, using the correct grip and develop pencil control Tilt writing book to write and hold onto the page with the opposite hand. Form letters Orally compose ideas	Secure letter formation Spelling patterns Write sentences	Increase handwriting and spelling fluency Develop paragraphs	Improve transcription fluency Organise ideas into paragraphs	Write for different purposes Select vocabulary and sentence structures	Control structure, vocabulary and style Edit independently	Write fluently and effectively for audience, purpose and impact
Number and Mathematical Fluency	Develop number sense Count, subitise and compare quantities	Secure key number facts within 20; understand place value	Secure key facts Calculate efficiently within 100	Develop multiplication/division facts Use efficient calculation	Secure multiplication facts Apply written methods	Apply number fluency to increasingly complex problems	Select efficient strategies Apply fluency flexibly to reasoning
Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED) &	Understand their feelings and those of others	Talk about feelings and express	Adjust behaviour after reflection	Abilty to have deepening friendships Greater social communication skills		Maturing emotional control, allowing a greater ability to handle social pressures, manage	

Executive Functioning	Begin to regulate behaviour and know right from wrong Wait for what they want and control impulses Have confidence to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenges Mange own basic hygiene and personal needs	emotions using words Recognise bodily signs of strong emotions Ignore distractions when focusing on a task Cope with changes in plans	Self-calm with few prompts Remember and apply rules Explain what they're feeling and why	Increasing empathy to navigate disagreements and enable productive group work. Increasing resilience and cognitive flexibility as academic tasks become more complex (try alternative strategies when an initial attempt fails Taking more ownership of simple planning and organization (e.g. keeping track of personal equipment and independently completing homework tasks)	frustrations independently and shift focus away from distractions Plan multi-day projects, assess own progress and use positive self-talk or internal problem-solving strategies
Physical development **(links to early writing and transcription)**	Negotiate space and obstacles safely with consideration for themselves and others Demonstrate strength, balance and	Master core actions, including running, jumping, throwing and catching and apply them in different contexts Increasing balance, agility and coordination and extend this to working in cooperation with partners or in small groups		Build physical stamina, control, and flexibility through activities like gymnastics and athletics Combine and link movement patterns with greater fluency, control, and precision Play team and individual games (such as netball, football, hockey, cricket, rounders, and tennis) with a developing understanding of tactics and strategies	

	coordination when playing Move energetically in a variety of ways (e.g. running, skipping, jumping, hopping) Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes, cutlery Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing Sit on a chair comfortably with feet flat on the floor and back against the chair back.	Begin to engage in competitive and cooperative team games while learning basic defending and attacking principles Perform dances using simple movement patterns and spatial awareness		Compare current physical performances against previous personal bests to track and demonstrate measurable improvement Statutory requirement to swim competently, confidently, and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 meters using a range of strokes, alongside performing safe self-rescue			
Thinking, Memory and	Sustain attention Follow routines	Follow 2-step instructions	Organise resources	Explain thinking Check work	Select strategies	Plan, monitor and adapt learning	Work independently

Learning Behaviours	Remember and follow simple instructions	Focus on a task for 5 minutes Develop independence	Follow 3-step instructions Focus on a task for 10 minutes Remember and apply taught strategies	Use feedback	Monitor understanding		Evaluate, refine and take responsibility
Application and Transfer	Apply learning in familiar contexts	Apply skills across familiar subjects	Apply skills in different contexts	Transfer skills between subjects	Apply skills independently to new contexts	Select and adapt skills according to task	Transfer knowledge and skills confidently to unfamiliar situations