

# Curriculum Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 2

Spring Term

This term we will be learning the following things. Here are some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

## Overview of Learning

## Ideas for Learning at Home

English



**H** Hopetown  
Darlington



We will begin the spring term by exploring a new text – The Disgusting Sandwich. From this, we will write a set of instructions and an object description. We will then develop our recount writing skills by writing about our visit to Hopetown.

Following this, we will enjoy a traditional tale and write a setting description inspired by it. We will then read Man on the Moon (A Day in the Life of Bob) and write a diary recount in role as Bob, followed by retelling part of the story.

Throughout this, we will continue embedding our sentence structure and handwriting skills.

Encourage your child to recite their weekly nursery rhyme or poem and practise their spellings using their homework book, or in whichever way suits your child best.

Your child must read at least three times a week at home.

If children are writing at home, support them in checking their sentence structure and letter formation. (Please note that children are not expected to use joined handwriting at this stage.)

Maths



**Addition & Subtraction** – We have been working hard at consolidating addition with regrouping, and subtraction with exchanging. We will continue to embed this in the spring term before moving on to new topics.

We will add and subtract two digit numbers and using concrete & pictorial manipulatives, including calculations with regrouping and exchanging.

**Statistics** – Year 2 will interpret, ask and answer pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and simple tables.





**Introduction to Multiplication** – We will begin learning to multiply by looking at unequal and equal groups, and doubling numbers. We will then begin to learn our 2, 5 and 10 times tables and use these to calculate products.





**Introduction to Division** – We will begin learning to divide by sharing, grouping, skip counting and halving.



**Spatial Pattern & Reasoning** – We will learn about the properties of polygons and 3D shapes. This topic will also cover position and direction.

Encourage your children to practise their number bonds and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s at home as this will significantly benefit their learning in various areas of maths.

Practise counting forwards and backwards from any number in ones or tens.

<p><b>Science</b></p> 	<p><b>Uses of Everyday Materials</b> – The first part of the term will be spent completing our study of everyday materials. The children will be identifying and comparing the suitability of a variety of everyday materials. They will look at materials in our environment and investigate the properties of everyday materials. They will use their observations and findings to compare the suitability of different materials for different purposes.</p> <p><b>Living Things and Their Habitats</b> – In this topic we will explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. We will learn all about what a habitat is, and identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited, describing how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. Together, we will learn about different world habitats and study and observe a variety of plants and animals in the local habitat, including micro-habitats. The children will also find out about how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identifying and naming different sources of food.</p>	<p>Observe animals living in habitats near your home, such as the woods or gardens. Why are these habitats suitable for the creatures who live there? You could even build a bug hotel or bird house together!</p> <p>This is a great website for simple science experiments to do together at home: <a href="http://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments">http://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments</a></p>
<p><b>History</b></p> 	<p><b>Why Should Darlington Be Proud of George Stephenson?</b> - The children will be exploring the different ways in which travel and transport has changed from the past to present, thinking about how people travelled before trains and cars were invented. We will explore how the first trains and railways were developed and how rail travel changed the lives of people living in the UK. We will think about why steam locomotives are historically significant and learn about famous locomotives such as Locomotion Number 1 and the Rocket. We will look at how and why trains have changed over time and see how the work of George Stephenson impacted lives at the time they were alive and today. We will look at their achievements and explain how they are significant to our local area. We will be going on a trip to a railway museum to help us look at locomotives in more detail.</p>	<p>The National Railway Museum in York or Shildon are great places to visit to enhance your child's learning about this topic. Their website also has lots of great information about their collections too. <a href="https://www.railwaymuseum.org.uk">https://www.railwaymuseum.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Geography</b></p> 	<p><b>Where in the world do we live?</b> – This topic will allow us to explore where we live in the context of the wider world. This will involve developing understanding of continents, the Equator, poles, seas and oceans. We will then learn about where the United Kingdom fits within the world. We will use and further our skills of map and atlas reading, and learn to use compass points.</p>	<p>Use Google maps to investigate the world. What oceans/seas/continents/countries can you find? Can you find different habitat biomes to link to our learning in science?</p>
<p><b>Art &amp; Design</b></p> 	<p><b>Circles and Lines</b> - In this term's art topic, the children will be exploring the work of Sonia Delaunay and Wassily Kandinsky. In this unit, Year 2 will experiment with lines, dots and shapes using different stroke techniques and thick and thin paintbrushes and then apply this in creating a composition.</p>	<p>Why not create your own composition at home? You could use paint, pencils or ear buds. Can you use different strokes to show different thicknesses?</p>

<p><b>Design &amp; Technology</b></p> 	<p><b>Sewing</b> – In this topic we will learn about textiles and their uses. We will look at different ways fabric can be joined, and bring these skills together to design and make a simple pencil case. We will also explore how to add decorative elements to textile products. The children will then evaluate their own and others' products.</p>	<p>Talk to someone you know who can sew, knit or crochet. Could they share their skills with you or talk about what they do?</p>
<p><b>RE</b></p> 	<p><b>Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time?</b> In this topic, we will explore what kindness means to Christians. We will learn about times when Jesus showed kindness, even when it wasn't easy. Throughout the sessions we will reflect on how kindness impacts the way Christians live their lives, and what kindness means to us in our own lives.</p>	<p>How could you show kindness in school and outside of it? Could you participate in an act of kindness as a family and then tell the class about it?</p>
<p><b>PE</b></p> 	<p>Year 2 will develop their dance skills this term, exploring how movement can be used to show character and emotion. They will then develop their own dance piece. They will then develop their ball skills of sending and returning, using both their feet and hands. They will further this by learning to use a racquet.</p>	<p>Please ensure that your child remembers to come in their PE kit every <u>Tuesday</u>. We will be outside in all weathers (within reason) so warm tracksuit, waterproof, hat and gloves are also needed as we head into winter.</p>
<p><b>PSHE</b></p> 	<p><b>How do we keep ourselves safe and clean?</b> This topic will cover safety and hygiene in regard to our bodies. We will learn the importance of good hygiene and how to keep clean. This topic will also cover how to keep ourselves safe, including the importance of privacy with regards to our bodies, and what is and is not appropriate touch.</p> <p><b>What is the same and different about us?</b> In this unit we will learn about and celebrate difference. The children will learn the protected characteristics, and why they are important. We will discuss and reflect about how we all look different, have different families, and different beliefs. We will also begin to learn what is meant by disability. This will all be underpinned by a theme of respecting everybody, regardless of any difference.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/</a> This website is very appropriate for reiterating the importance of keeping our bodies private and appropriate touching.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<p>In music, Year 2 will begin to understand that musical notes are usually grouped in 4. They will perform from rhythmic notation, including rests and notes that last longer than a single beat. The children will play longer phrases on untuned percussion instruments and body percussion.</p>	<p>Listen to different music and find similarities and differences between them, thinking about the instruments you can hear. Practise identifying the tempo of the music by finding the pulse and seeing if it is fast, slow or in between.</p>

<p><b>Computing</b></p> 	<p>Following the unit on spreadsheets in the autumn term, Year 2 will develop our skills further by learning about data handling tools that can give more information than pictograms. The children will use yes/no questions to separate information and construct a binary tree to identify items. They will be using 2Question (a binary tree database) to help us to answer questions.</p> <p>To complete our computing work for the term, Year 2 will be looking at searching effectively on the Internet, focusing on learning the terminology associated with searching. We will then create a leaflet to help someone search for information on the Internet.</p>	<p>Please encourage your child to be safe when online and keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter pages for advice to parents regarding online safety for children. Use apps that support their learning. There are lots of amazing free apps and websites!</p> <p>BBC Dance Mat is a great website to practise typing with two hands.</p>
<p><b>Trips, Experiences and Enrichment</b></p> 	<p>Visit to Hoptown (History)</p> <p>World Book Day (English)</p> <p>Evening in School (Independence)</p> <p>Science Experiments (Enrichment)</p> <p>Easter Crafts for the Community (Enrichment)</p>	

Within school we have 6 values: **Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Fairness, Teamwork** and **Ambition**.  
These are interwoven through our curriculum and everyday practice.