

Harvills' Life Skills Curriculum

The Harvills Hawthorn vision is for all of us to be the very best that we can be. We believe that one of the facets that will enable us to achieve this is through a broad, exciting and engaging curriculum. Our Life Skills Curriculum is one aspect of this.

Intent

At Harvills, our mission is to prepare all of our children for the next stage of their lives to enable them to contribute positively to their community. The Life Skills Curriculum has been developed with this mission at its heart. This preparedness is attained not only through each child being the very best that they can be academically, but also through the value we place on all children developing the skill set they will need to lead a successful life. We are committed to enabling each child to attain an age appropriate skill set to aid them on their journey to be the best version of themselves

Implementation

Here at Harvills Hawthorn, we believe that Life Skills should be taught in a cross curricular manner to fully engage each and every learner. All teachers will utilise many pedagogical approaches to include all learner and help the learners to reach their full potential. The curriculum is intentionally ambitious in design in order to help or learners reach the next stage of their life successfully. The life skills that each of our children aim to attain are set at an age appropriate level and taught within curriculum time assigned to the relevant subjects as detailed in the Life Skills Map. Many of the skills have specific, relevant links to each of the curriculum areas within which they are taught. Each week children will engage in a 15 minute short form task to help bolster their life skills learning. In other instances, the Life Skills will be taught through separate stand-alone projects engaging with different stakeholders in the local, and at times, wider community. In addition to the life skills set out in the Life Skills Map, the Life Skills curriculum will encompass a series of events of projects based on developing specific skills applicable to the world of work. These projects will focus on broadening horizons and raising aspirations for all of the children in our care. Where appropriate, all Life Skills learning should take place in a collaborative manner, with a focus on teamwork and co-operation. Due to the nature of the Life Skills targets, children may present their learning and attainment in a variety of ways. Teachers will record this evidence in a class portfolio (either digital or physical). The class portfolio will be updated by the class teacher on completion of any relevant learning. This evidence bank will show the ongoing development of the children's life skills learning. Any written outcomes that are required to communicate the children's attainment within the Life Skills curriculum should meet the expectations of the Harvills Literacy curriculum; including the use of pre-cursive (EYFS/key stage 1) or cursive loop (key stage 2) script.

Impact

The development of a broad base of life skills are a fundamental part of creating a well-rounded society. At Harvills we believe that all children will be more successful on their chosen path if they develop a range of these skills through their school lives. By following and engaging in the Life Skills Curriculum children develop more than just their academic skillset. The children will develop a deeper understanding of their responsibilities to society, become more engaged in their local communities, and establish a more independent self. These traits will better the children and allow them to make positive contributions to their communities as they move on to the next stage of their lives.