Our Curriculum

The National Curriculum states that…

Every state-funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based and which:

- *promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and*
- *prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.*

The national curriculum provides pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens. It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

The national curriculum is just one element in the education of every child. There is time and space in the school day and in each week, term and year to range beyond the national curriculum specifications. The national curriculum provides an outline of core knowledge around which teachers can develop exciting and stimulating lessons to promote the development of pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills as part of the wider school curriculum.

With this in mind, we have worked hard to consider what we feel the needs of the children here at Bridekirk Dovenby School are. Together we have decided upon the following **CURRICULUM DRIVERS** which underpin the decisions we make about the curriculum and ensure our curriculum offer is enriched and personalised to our children and their families.
Our curriculum drivers consider:

- The needs of our learners and our community
- Our Church of England Values and Mission
- The location of our School.

educating for… 'Life in All its Fullness' (John 10:10)

Community Values

Bridekirk Dovenby is a wonderful place to come to school and learn; we want children to be aware that they are a central part of a small community and have a role to play in that community. We have links with the local church, groups in the village and also with the wider world. We believe our children need to develop their sense of justice and an ability to empathise with and tolerate others. Our curriculum will strive to make children aware of their own emotions and how their actions impact on others so they can become well rounded citizens.

Active Adventure

Living on the edge of the Lake District, we are passionate about the physical and mental development of our children. We believe competition and sportsmanship develop confidence. We want our children to know there is more to life than the virtual, digital world and our curriculum will allow them to manage real risks by having fun and a little danger!

Initiative and Independence

It is vital that we nurture the natural curiosity of our children, enabling them to become independent in thought and action. Our curriculum will encourage them to imagine, enquire and become increasingly responsible for themselves and others.

Possibilities Worldwide

Living in a rural community, we believe our children need to know about and understand the world that is beyond the immediate doorstep and the possibilities that it can offer. They need opportunities to experience the richness of its diversity and show they care about its management and sustainability. We will provide opportunities for them to explore similarities and differences between communities and open their eyes to new possibilities. This will enable them to be aspirational and understand how to achieve their dreams.