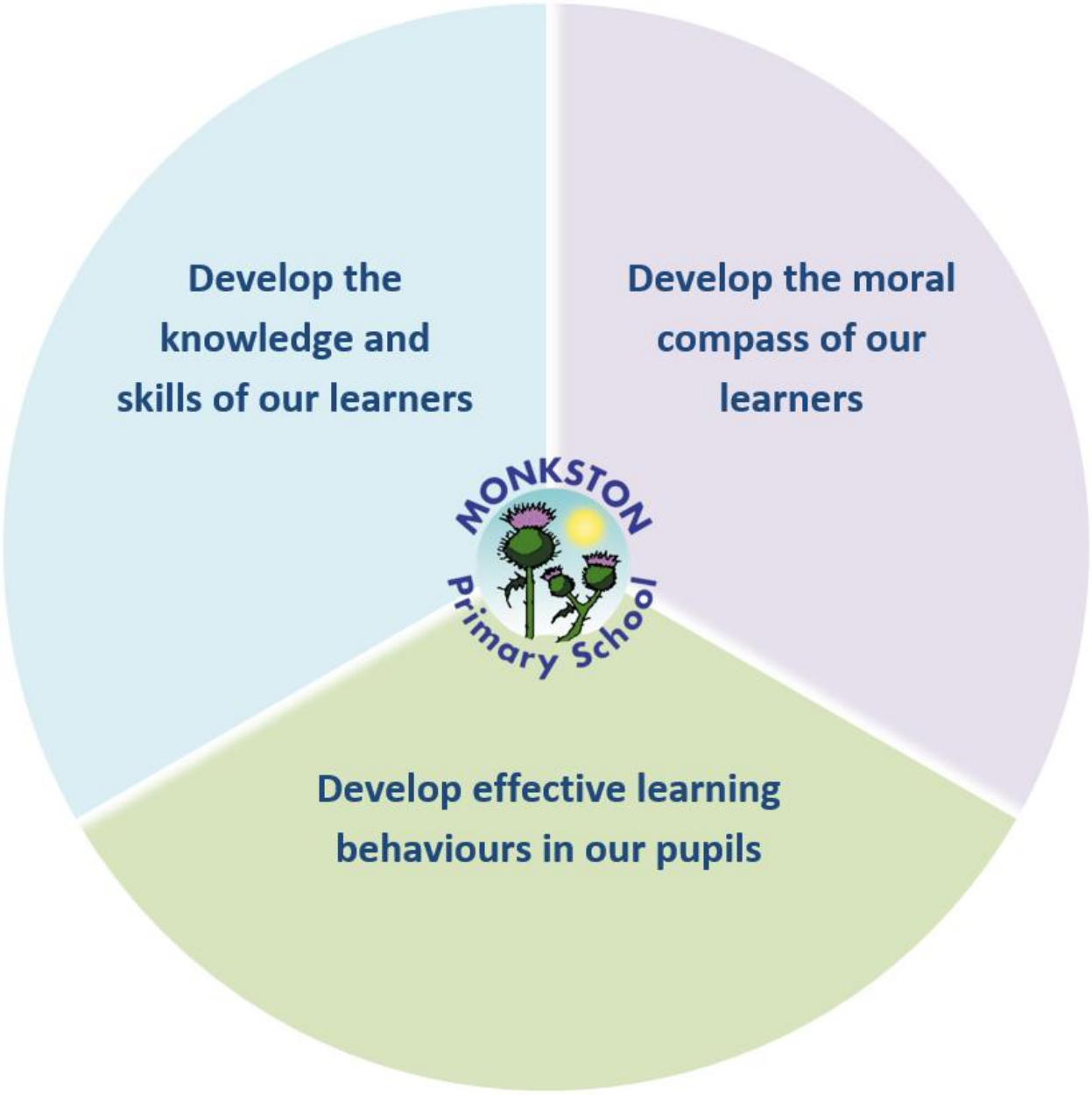
Monkston Primary School
Curriculum Intent

At Monkston Primary School, we aim to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and the wider world by developing their skills and nurturing their interests. Our pupils leave Year 6 as caring, respectful and tolerant young individuals, having fulfilled their academic potential and ready for the next step of their journey.



Develop the knowledge and skills of our learners	Develop the moral compass of our learners	Develop effective learning behaviours in our pupils
We aim to make every lesson count! Our intention is for learning in all subjects to be exciting and memorable – something which pupils want to talk about when they get home!	***Our curriculum design is underpinned by our work to actively promote the fundamental British Values. Our curriculum promotes all aspects of pupils' moral development putting mental health at the forefront.***	***We believe children should learn in a stimulating environment, in which extremely high expectations of behaviour ensure pupils are ready to learn. We strive to equip learners with characteristics required to become lifelong learners.***
At Monkston, we are steadfast in the pursuit of excellence throughout the curriculum. We deliver an ambitious curriculum which builds sequentially and coherently through as pupils progress through the school. We follow the Primary Knowledge Curriculum (PKC) from EYFS through to year 6 in history, geography, art & design and DT and its robust approach places 'powerful knowledge' at its heart. PKC's ambitious, knowledge-rich content has been highly specified and well-sequenced, leaving nothing to chance and links are made across disciplines to enable children to make meaningful connections. The curriculum supports children in acquiring the knowledge, skills and cultural capital that they will need to become well-educated citizens of the future.	Staff and pupils have collaborated to create our own unique Monkston Values, which form the heart of our school community. These values link to fundamental British Values as well as the whole curriculum and provide the basis of what we are trying to achieve: thoughtful, kind and respectful citizens. We are committed to providing a rich, inclusive and inspiring curriculum that goes beyond the classroom. Monkston's Enrichment Journey ensures that pupils engage in experiences that ignite curiosity, build confidence and foster a lifelong love of learning. Our assemblies have high importance in our weekly timetable as pupils are exposed to high quality and thought-provoking life lessons. They explore a number of varied themes from how to manage different emotions to celebrating diversity.	The careers that the children of Monkston will pursue in the future may not even exist now. Therefore, it is imperative that as a school we equip our pupils with the characteristics of an effective learner so that they are able to confidently tackle any challenges they may face. As a whole school, we explore different learning characteristics and deepen the children's understanding of ***curiosity, integrity, resilience, collaboration, compassion*** and ***respect***. This is achieved through the exploration of themes during assemblies led by senior staff. These Values are then developed further within all areas of the curriculum and are celebrated through a weekly award during a whole-school assembly.

Reading	We believe that reading underpins the entire curriculum and have developed a whole-school approach to ensure this is at the heart of everything we do. Phonics is taught daily throughout Foundation Stage and KS1. Using ideas and resources based on the highly successful 'Read Write Inc.' phonics scheme, staff equip pupils with the phoneme and grapheme knowledge from our complex language to enable them to decode and develop fluency and go beyond this to become accomplished readers. Beyond Phonics, daily guided reading lessons focus on reading fluency and comprehension through carefully chosen narrative and non-fiction texts. Our approach develops fluent and confident readers with a love of literature. Every day at Monkston ends with teachers, from EYFS to year 6, reading a book with their class. Leaders carefully select texts that cover a range of themes and authors, but more crucially, we choose books that inspire, excite and promote a love for reading! Reading at Monkston Primary School
Writing	English teaching at Monkston is engaging, motivating and personalised. Writing is taught following a structured skills-based approach whereby every week, pupils will take an in-depth look at a text and create a piece of writing inspired by its content. Each unit follows a broadly similar structure: reading and discussing the stimulus and unpicking a WAGOLL ('What a good one looks like') for children to see what their end product may look like; practising skills after extensive modelling from the teacher; and a star write where pupils produce their final piece of writing to show-off their skills. Throughout the week, teachers build a 'working wall' with their modelled examples, vocabulary and a writing checklist which will be referred to in every lesson. Grammar and punctuation form the basis of the skills that are taught throughout each unit. Spelling is taught daily in Years 2-6 following the Twinkl scheme and where possible, is linked to pupils' writing topics. Pupils are expected to practise their spellings daily using the resources provided by their teacher. Click here to see an overview of our writing scheme of learning

Maths	At Monkston, we follow the *White Rose Maths* Scheme of Learning and its 'Small Steps' which ensures number is at the heart of the maths curriculum; time is spent reinforcing number skills to develop pupils' competency, have and conceptual understanding and can build on these skills over their learning life. Our approach encourages mathematical talk, thinking and reasoning which allows them to delve deeper into concepts to secure a greater mathematical understanding. When introduced to new concepts (or revisiting previous ones), children should have the opportunity to build their competency by following this approach: **Concrete** – children should use concrete objects to help them understand what they are doing. **Pictorial** – children should use pictorial representations, which can help them to reason and problem solve. **Abstract** –children should be able to move onto an abstract approach using numbers and key concepts with confidence. **Click here to see year group overviews and Small Steps**
Religious Education (RE)	The RE curriculum at Monkston is designed to promote the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, mental and physical development and well-being of pupils, following the Milton Keynes Agreed Syllabus. In religious education, pupils acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the principal religions represented in Britain. Our PKC RE curriculum is designed to be knowledge-rich, coherently sequenced, and cumulatively structured to ensure that pupils develop a secure and meaningful understanding of religious and non-religious worldviews over time. The subject identifies and explores questions about human existence that have been asked since the dawn of time, offering children opportunities to develop their own personal knowledge. It aims to develop both academic understanding and respectful engagement with diverse perspectives. **Click here to see EYFS & KS1 RE Curriculum** **Click here to see KS2 RE Curriculum**

Science	The science curriculum at Monkston is designed to engage our pupils and promote an interest in three key areas of science: physics, biology and chemistry. Carefully sequenced lessons create a sense of excitement and curiosity for the subject. Pupils' are encouraged to develop scientific knowledge, conceptual understanding, ability to work scientifically, think clearly and speak confidently about science. We follow the *White Rose* scheme of learning which provides the full coverage of the national curriculum for science, as well as asking scientific questions around sustainability and the planet to help children develop an empathy for the local and wider environment. **Click here to see the EYFS Curriculum Overview** **Click here to see the KS1 Curriculum Overview** **Click here to see the KS2 Curriculum Overview**
Art & Design	Monkston follows the PKC art curriculum, which is knowledge-rich and is designed to enable children to learn by making connections between the work of artists, architects and designers and their own work, which they evaluate and relate back to the works they have studied. Units of work in the curriculum focus on the different concepts in art (line, shape, colour, tone, form, space, visual texture and tone) and how an artist combines these elements and produces art in different styles, for example realistic or abstract art. Pupils study different types of art including sculpture, architecture and painting within a range of artistic movements and historical periods. Our curriculum celebrates diversity by recognising artists beyond traditional Western artforms and showcases art by those traditionally underrepresented in British art. **Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's art & design curriculum**

Computing	The computing curriculum at Monkston is designed to engage our pupils and promote an interest in many areas of computing: online safety, programming, presentation skills, digital literacy, use of networks and understanding data. A clearly sequenced and progressive curriculum ensures that pupils not only build the computing skills they need, but develop a sense of excitement and curiosity for the subject. We develop pupils' computing knowledge, conceptual understanding of how computers and the internet work, ability to work logically to assess problems they can debug and solve independently and to speak confidently about computing. Pupils consider the importance and impact technology has on the world and the uses of computing now and in the future. **Click here to see Monkston's computing curriculum overview**
Design Technology (DT)	The PKC DT curriculum aims to inspire students to think about the important and integral role that design and the creation of designed products play in our society. The curriculum is split into three different areas: 'cook', 'sew' and 'build'. It is designed so that each year group will complete a unit of work in these three different areas once a year. Two different aspects of design are interwoven into the three areas of study: the *environment and sustainability*, and *enterprise and innovation*. These 'aspects' acknowledge enduring and contemporary concerns of modern design. Each unit specifies the concepts and skills which the students are expected to learn over the course of a unit and these gradually progress throughout the course of the six years of study. **Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's DT curriculum**
Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)	We use PSHE and Citizenship best practice to help develop the qualities and attributes children need to be healthy, independent and active participants in society. Using the *Twinkl Life* scheme of work, we cover units on British Values, Global Citizenship, Personal Safety, Health, RSE and Mental Wellbeing to deliver outstanding SMSC provision. Our PSHE planning and resources are fully in line with the PSHE Association Programme of Study and meet the 2019 Draft Guidance for Statutory Relationships and Heath Education. Our PSED curriculum in EYFS develops self-confidence, making relationships and managing feelings and behaviours. **Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's PSHE curriculum**

French	French at Monkston is designed to develop resilience and enjoyment through an ambitiously planned scheme of work. Through the *Cave Languages* scheme of work for French, pupils acquire language learning strategies for memorisation and retrieval as well as for listening, reading and understanding. They are encouraged to manipulate language to speak or write sentences using prior knowledge of grammar. Pupils are taught the key sounds of the French language and their corresponding graphemes so that they can apply this knowledge when speaking, listening and reading aloud. The choice of vocabulary ensures exposure to all the key phonic sounds and the ability to build sentences using grammatical knowledge. **Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's French curriculum**
Geography	PKC's knowledge-rich and carefully sequenced geography curriculum ensures that Monkston pupils know more and understand more about the world around them. This curriculum structure helps pupils to deepen their understanding of physical and human geographical processes, fostering curiosity and fascination for the world we live in. Our rigorous approach, covering and going beyond the requirements of the National Curriculum, leaves nothing to chance, building geographical knowledge and understanding in a way that builds on children's prior knowledge, allowing them to make meaningful connections and gain an understanding of how our world is connected. **Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's geography curriculum**
History	Throughout our PKC history curriculum, children are exposed to ambitious content within lessons that has been highly specified and well-sequenced across the years from EYFS to Year 6. It supports children to acquire the knowledge, skills and cultural capital that they will need to become well-educated citizens of the future. Through exciting and engaging lessons, pupils progress in developing key historical skills and acquiring new knowledge which not only challenges, but increasingly develops their ability to question the world around them. Our history curriculum is designed so that children can see historical figures from different backgrounds that may be similar to themselves, and this allows pupils to feel valued as individuals. We also contribute to the pupil's spiritual development where possible. Within units of work, we provide pupils with the opportunity to discuss moral questions, or what is right and wrong, when focusing on significant people and periods in history. **Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's history curriculum**

Music	At Monkston, music education is guided by the innovative *Sing Up* scheme of work, which has been meticulously designed to enhance students' learning outcomes. This comprehensive approach fosters progression in fundamental musical techniques, enabling pupils to develop proficiency in various areas such as singing, playing instruments, and musical composition. Furthermore, the scheme exposes students to a diverse range of musical genres, enriching their musical knowledge and appreciation. Through exploration of influential composers and their works, pupils gain a deeper understanding of the impact of music throughout history. As they progress, students cultivate a profound engagement with music, empowering them to compose original pieces and critically analyse live and recorded performances from diverse traditions and renowned musicians. These lessons are complemented by the cheerful and enthusiastic teaching style of our dedicated music educators, creating a positive and inspiring learning environment that nurtures students' musical abilities and fosters a lifelong appreciation for the arts. **Click here to see Monkston's Music Development Plan** **Click here to see KS1's music curriculum overview** **Click here to see KS2's music curriculum overview**
Physical Education (PE)	At Monkston Primary School, we understand the importance of PE and endeavour to provide a balanced curriculum that allows children to develop their physical skills and maintain a healthy active lifestyle from EYFS to Year 6. The school follows the Twinkl *PE Mastery* scheme of work which develops and builds a child's fundamental movement and skills and enables them to understand how these can be applied to particular sports. Pupils progress sequentially through the school developing skills and knowledge in performance, personal & social and competition. Children in Year 5 take part in swimming lessons, which is a key part of the PE national curriculum. Additionally, we offer the children opportunities to participate in sports in our enriched curriculum and some children in KS2 are selected to represent the school in events including cross country and athletics. Click here to see a breakdown of each year group's PE curriculum