

Avonwood Primary School

Education with Character Charter



September 2024

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1.0 Our School Vision

At Avonwood we see it as our moral imperative for all children, regardless of background, to achieve their very best. Our children all read classic literature, study modern foreign languages, experience the science of dissecting organs and even learn a new musical instrument every year as a right, not a privilege. These high expectations enable us to develop and deliver a curriculum rich in carefully sequenced and embedded powerful knowledge. We expect teachers to deliver lessons with that fulfil this expectation whilst living up to our ambition of **inspiring wonder and intellectual curiosity**.

Our curriculum is at the centre of every education decision we take at Avonwood. We do not see the curriculum as a finished product, far from it. On a weekly, termly and annual basis we review plans, consider our intent and make sure we deliver the very best academic and enrichment diet to our children. We whole-heartedly believe that it is our duty as a school to ensure that children leave with more than just the curriculum expectations but leave with a set of memories and experiences that develop our children morally, spiritually and emotionally and prepares them for the ever-changing, modern world that we live in. Therefore, we aim to provide every child with a range of opportunities to further develop themselves and their skills to help prepare them for adulthood.

We are honoured to be the only United Nations Earth Charter Primary School in Europe. We believe it is vital that all children have an understanding of their responsibility as global citizens and our eight Earth Charter principals are referenced throughout our curriculum and daily life. From the importance of peace and respect for all living creatures through to the consideration of the past and future of our planet, this ethos gives our Avonwood curriculum a very current and relevant perspective that all stakeholders within our community hold strong. This runs deep within our "Avonwood DNA" and is optimised by our school mantra... it starts with one! This runs through all aspects of our enrichment opportunities that we offer at Avonwood.

The Avonwood Curriculum provides all children, regardless of their background, with a set of core ideas that will enable all students to experience a personal sense of awe and wonder when describing and explaining the world around them. Throughout our curriculum we have selected examples that inspires children's' curiosity about the world and highlight a range of key figures from a wide range of backgrounds; and considering social and cultural values.

2.0 Our promise: Avonwood, Avon-will

The above section sets our school vision, however at Avonwood, we also value the hidden curriculum and strive to develop more than just the academic skills for every child throughout their time with us. This has been developed from the philosophy from the Framework for Excellence within United Learning which states, *“Academic success is very important... But there is more to a good education. We want young people to look back on a joyful schooling which has inspired and challenged them, given them wide opportunity and prepared them for the ups and downs of life.”*

Therefore, we aim to better prepare children for the ever-changing, modern world that we live in by developing some core skills and a breadth of knowledge and understanding that enable children to be active citizens in their future. This includes developing skills such as:

- Confidence
- Resilience
- Perseverance
- Moral integrity (a sense of right and wrong)
- Social awareness
- Ambition
- Enthusiasm

This document aims to set out the enrichment entitlement that each pupil will get access to during their time at Avonwood.

By the end of their time with us at Avonwood, we pledge that every child will:

- Speak publicly e.g. perform in an assembly;
- Vote: to understand democracy;
- Take part in a team sport;
- Attend forest school and understand how to look after our environment;
- Participated in a music or performing arts activity;
- Helped others by participating in a social action campaign or volunteered their time;
- Represented my school/house/year group by taking part in a cultural, artistic, charitable or sporting event to an audience outside my school;
- Heard from an inspirational speaker;
- Had a chance to share my views about school via the pupil leadership structure;
- Attended a residential trip;
- Had my talents celebrated and recognised;
- Have the opportunity to apply a life skill inside the classroom and out (e.g. crossing roads, first aid);
- Have the chance to turn an idea into a reality by problem solving real-life challenges.

Each year all pupils will:

- go on a school trip
- perform music or drama to an audience
- represent their class or house in individual and team activities
- share their views on the school through student leadership structures
- hear from an inspirational speaker or author

In Key Stage 1, all pupils will:

- have a named role with classroom responsibilities
- volunteer time to serve the local community
- go on a school trip to place of local significance
- Reflect on their aspirations and personal development goals with an adult in the school

In Key Stage 2, all pupils will:

- represent the school in a sporting, cultural or academic event.
- learn a different musical instrument every year
- have the opportunity to stay away from home and bond with classmates on a residential trip.
- watch a professional performance, production, sporting or cultural event live at an inspiring venue or in school.
- deliver a presentation to an audience.
- volunteer time to serve the local community.
- attend a careers event
- demonstrate leadership outside their class through working with younger pupils, helping with whole-school responsibilities or taking on specific named pupil leadership roles
- Reflect on their aspirations and personal development goals with an adult in the school

We believe that through this promise, our Avonwood children will leave as life-long learners who are well-rounded, socially responsible children and are ready to face the challenges of the world.

3.0 'Avon-will' Strands

At Avonwood primary school we group our 'Avon-will' promises into 8 key areas:

- Sporting Opportunities
- Music and Performing Arts
- Life Skills – Community
- Creative Arts
- Social Action
- Enterprise and Employability
- Adventure
- Natural World



3.1 Sport at Avonwood: building character through competitive teamwork

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Daily bikes, trikes and scooters.</p> <p>Mini Tour-De France</p>	AFC Bournemouth sports sessions	<p>Ten week block for swimming lessons for all Year 3 children.</p> <p>Specialist kickboxing trainer as part of their topic.</p> <p>Tour De France cycling competition</p> <p>Sporting professional talks</p>	<p>Catch up with swimming for those year 5 children who did not pass 25m in Year 3.</p> <p>Multiple opportunities for sporting competitions e.g. athletics, a range of inclusive teams and sports.</p> <p>Multiple opportunities for sporting competitions e.g. Town Sports, athletics, a range of inclusive teams and sports</p> <p>Sports Ambassadors</p> <p>Bikeability opportunity at school</p> <p>Visually impaired cricket workshop for all Year 5 children</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Sports Day: this annual event encourages participation, teamwork, cooperation and valuing the community spirit.</p> <p>InterHouse Competitions: These take place throughout the school year.</p> <p>Mile run: this weekly event enables the children to take part in a weekly mile run which allows for weekly self-improvement, an element of good sportsmanship by encouraging others and a competitive nature.</p> <p>Weekly lunch clubs: e.g. netball, handball run by our specialist PE teacher allowing children a smaller setting and chance for team sports.</p> <p>AFCB: in each key stage children have the local football club coaches come and teach some sessions</p>			

3.2 Music and Performing Arts at Avonwood: building character through stage presence and performances

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Nativity</p> <p>Parent – Diwali</p> <p>Free Jolly Postman virtual workshop</p> <p>Daily role play as part of cont prov</p> <p>Whole class/year group singing</p>	<p>Year 1 Nativity</p> <p>Sound Storm visit</p> <p>Year 2 Nativity to care home visitors</p> <p>Play an instrument.</p> <p>Listen to an orchestra</p> <p>Great Fire of London Day</p> <p>Pavilion singing depends on other schools if we get chosen again</p>	<p>Christmas Carol Concert</p> <p>Choir</p> <p>Samba/African drumming</p> <p>Greek Play in a Day</p> <p>Learn to play ukulele – Year 4</p> <p>I-rock music lessons</p>	<p>Choir</p> <p>Learn to play recorder</p> <p>Visit Theatre – Year 5 – Wizard of Oz</p> <p>Class Practice of Singing Assembly songs</p> <p>Christmas Carol Concert</p> <p>End of year school leavers performance</p> <p>Learn to play Keyboard</p> <p>Performance from theatre company</p> <p>Christmas Panto</p> <p>Sound Storm visit</p> <p>Viking/Anglo Saxon visitors – battle reenactment and arts</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Pantomime performance: this annual event allows all children to view, participate and enjoy a Pantomime performance at school and inspires those who may also want to perform.</p> <p>Assembly performances: all children have the opportunity to perform in a school assembly each year building speaking and performing skills in front of an audience.</p>			

	<p>Poetry performance: children also have the opportunity to read, write and perform poetry in front of audiences annually also.</p> <p>Drama and hot-seating: each child participates in a range of drama activities including hot-seating in a variety of subjects including reading and writing.</p> <p>Summer Fair Talent Show Performances</p> <p>Interhouse Singing Competition</p> <p>Soundstorm performance to the whole school</p> <p>Orchestra performance</p>
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3.3 Life Skills at Avonwood: Building character through learning essential life skills which will set children up for their future

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Teaching through role play and small world play e.g. shops, how to look after a baby/pet</p> <p>Explicit teaching to manage risks in play</p> <p>Emergency services visit</p> <p>Cooking skills e.g. making snacks and chopping and mixing, making playdoh and other resources</p>	<p>Local park trip (crossing roads, managing risks)</p> <p>Making fruit kebabs</p> <p>DT – following instructions to make a moving card</p> <p>Make salad</p> <p>Make bread</p> <p>Sewing</p> <p>Road safety – visit to the park</p>	<p>Swimming</p> <p>Sewing</p> <p>My Dentist visit (Year 4) how to clean your teeth and impact of sugar and plaque</p> <p>Sleepover at school (Year 3)</p> <p>Orienteering trip to Kings Park for compass skills and OS symbols</p> <p>2 nights residential (Year 4)</p> <p>Soup making – cutting and preparing</p> <p>STEM week</p>	<p>Swimming</p> <p>Making interactive display</p> <p>Paulton’s Park: managing risk</p> <p>Making sauces</p> <p>NatWest: Money Sense</p> <p>Forest School Sewing</p> <p>Managing change: secondary school transition</p> <p>Fresh Air Club</p> <p>Nurse visit to lead heart dissection</p> <p>Lifeguards</p> <p>Waterwise from Education Wessex</p> <p>Money management from my bank - BU</p> <p>Science workshop at secondary school</p>

				World Book Day/Week – look into simplest day
Whole School Events	<p>Life Bus: this is an annual opportunity which teaches a range of skills such as preventing peer pressure, drugs and alcohol and applying to keeping ourselves safe.</p> <p>RNLI: this vital learning helps keep our children safe in their own town by the coast.</p> <p>NSPCC assembly and workshop.</p> <p>Mental Health Week: every child participates in mental health week each year, developing their understanding of how vital mental health is and how we can look after our physical and mental health.</p> <p>First Aid: all children are taught basic first aid at an age-appropriate level and are taught the skills of risk managing when helping others and learning our address to assist in calling for emergency services.</p>			

3.4 Creative Arts at Avonwood: building character through designing and producing creative work in a range of mediums

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Bonfire night art day</p> <p>Daily opportunities for Messy and creative play</p>	<p>Charles McGee paper sculptures</p> <p>DT – designing and making a moving card</p> <p>Poetry writing</p> <p>STEAM week</p> <p>ART gallery in hall</p>	<p>Dress up days e.g. Great Britain Day, Egypt Day, WWII Day, Greek Day</p> <p>Creating Egyptian canopic jars</p> <p>Stone Age art</p> <p>Virtual art gallery</p>	<p>Roman clay pottery</p> <p>Author visit in person</p> <p>Theatre Trip</p> <p>Installation art – Yr 6</p> <p>Virtual author visit</p> <p>Prop design – leavers play</p> <p>Fashion show for parents – Yr 6 headwear DT unit</p> <p>Charity fundraiser</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Our resident artist works with every year group for half a term, inspiring children to go further with their love of art.</p> <p>Whole school art gallery: in the summer term in the school hall, we turn it into a whole school gallery where children have the opportunity to showcase their art.</p> <p>Annual Fireworks PTA Whole School Poster Competition</p> <p>STEAM week – art exhibition in the hall</p>			

3.5 Social Action at Avonwood: building character by coming together to make a difference to lives and our surrounding communities

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Nursery stay and play</p> <p>Care home link - posting letters</p> <p>Nurseries invited to spend an afternoon in Avonwood</p> <p>Parent planting afternoon</p>	<p>Grandparent tea party</p> <p>Visit to a care home.</p> <p>Visit from Tama</p>	<p>Year 3 Trip to Boscombe Grounded Community site for a vegetable growing skills workshop (site provides food to those in need in the community)</p> <p>Year 4 fundraising art project</p>	<p>PTA Summer Fair Tenner Challenge</p> <p>Holocaust visit</p> <p>RE visitor</p> <p>Rotary 'Bournemouth in Bloom' competition.</p> <p>Refugee fundraising event & assemblies</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Harvest Assembly: each child has the opportunity to participate in our harvest assembly where 'Hope4Food' come in and talk to the children about the need for support and donate food.</p> <p>Earth Charter: children are aware of the need to protect our planet and their carbon footprints including our carbon zero plan.</p> <p>Conscious Alley: the opportunity for children to develop their debating skills within the curriculum.</p> <p>Charity: The school also support the 'Listening Ear' charity in a number of ways with some year groups fundraising with sporting events to help raise money and support the charity whilst also support the mental health of those at our school.</p> <p>Care Home: Every child is given the opportunity to support a local care home with special community events.</p> <p>Raising money for a charity</p>			

3.6 Enterprise and Employability at Avonwood: building character by broadening knowledge and preparing for our future

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>People Who Help Us topic – what do I want to be when I grow up? E.g. firefighters, doctors, vets</p> <p>AFCB – Healthy Me</p>	<p>School council presentations</p> <p>Airport in Day Event</p> <p>Fundraiser for RNLI</p> <p>RNLI visitor</p> <p>KS1 assembly (speaking opportunities)</p> <p>Year 2 Great Fire of London Assembly</p>	<p>Charity cake sale</p> <p>Virtual Art Auction for charitable cause</p> <p>Year 3 Grounded Community site – workshop about employability opportunities</p>	<p>Head girl/boy interviews by presenting to the head teacher and year lead and sitting an interview</p> <p>Bank and money workshop in Year 5</p> <p>Participating in designing and running stall at the PTA summer fair</p> <p>Prefect and leadership team</p> <p>‘Future Me’ workshop from Bournemouth University</p> <p>Parent career workshop</p> <p>Child-led sales for charity</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Supporting local charity: through school-based events run by children’s leadership team and developing the community spirit.</p> <p>Class responsibilities and year group responsibilities: each child in the school has a class job and area of responsibility for the school as part of our ‘Leadership For All’ project.</p> <p>Public speaking: all children have the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills and present to peers (e.g. #DirtIsGood)</p> <p>School council: children apply, present, vote and elect for a school council lead and deputy per class for the school who then listen to feedback from peers and at meeting decide on the best course of action to make improvements to our school and community.</p> <p>Jobs: each year group also offer for parents to come into school to talk about their jobs and what it is that they do.</p>			

3.7 Adventure at Avonwood: building character by experiencing excitement and pushing our 'comfort zone'

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Trip to the farm</p> <p>Chick/duck project</p> <p>Butterfly project</p>	<p>King's park local park visit</p> <p>Beaulieu School Trip</p> <p>Crazy Creatures</p> <p>Superhero day</p> <p>Maths 3D Sculpture Workshop</p> <p>Visit to St James church and their cenotaph</p> <p>Beaulieu</p> <p>Visit to New Forest Park</p> <p>Y 1 Bug man visit</p>	<p>Stonehenge School trip</p> <p>School Sleepover (contact Forest School)</p> <p>Hooke Court residential inc outdoor life skills (e.g. fire making)</p>	<p>Paulton's Park and forces workshop</p> <p>Secondary School Science Lab visit</p> <p>Residential: 3 days inc watersports</p> <p>Bikeability Training</p> <p>Inspirational Guest Speaker</p> <p>Crazy Creatures</p> <p>Forest Schools</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Adventure: Throughout school life, each child has the chance to develop their sense of adventure by taking part in a large range of school trips and visits.</p> <p>Forest School: Every child will experience half a term per school year of Forest School Provision, closely linked to our school curriculum.</p> <p>Orienteering Workshop: Children all provided the opportunity to learn orienteering on our own bespoke on site course.</p>			

3.8 Natural World at Avonwood: being character through care for our planet

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Year Group Experiences	<p>Chicks/ducks from eggs into school to hatch</p> <p>Butterfly project</p> <p>Planting</p> <p>Minibeasts project: pond area</p>	<p>Crazy Creatures</p> <p>Kings Park litter picking</p> <p>Planting</p> <p>Year 2 year group responsibility is eco-warriors.</p> <p>Year 2 gardening area – plant bulbs and wild flowers in KS1 playground</p>	<p>Year 3 Stonehenge School trip</p> <p>Year 3 trip to Boscombe Grounded Community site</p> <p>Hunting for vertebrates and invertebrates</p> <p>Rainforest fundraiser</p> <p>Brazil day - fair trade, rainforest and deforestation</p>	<p>Falconry UK Bird visit</p> <p>Rivers trip to the River Piddle</p> <p>Dissecting plants and flowers</p> <p>Gardening Club</p> <p>Rotary ‘Bournemouth In Bloom’ competition</p>
Whole School Events	<p>Forest School: at Avonwood, each year groups received half a term’s ‘Forest School Fridays’ where they will receive expert teaching from ‘Fresh Air Club’ that links to their curriculum learning and takes place outside and develops children’s natural curiosity and knowledge of the world around them.</p> <p>RSPB bird watch: each year, every child in the school takes place in RSPB bird watch, learning about different birds in our areas, identifying different animals and what this means for our environment.</p> <p>Earth Charter: we are an Earth Charter school, meaning children develop knowledge of the eight principles: life, interconnectivity, past, future, love, peace, family and Earth and how these apply to keeping our environment safe and protecting our planet.</p>			