

# DEEP DIVE:

Curriculum area: First Aid



**Belle Vue  
School**

**Cornfields  
School**

*'Improving life chances'*



# INTRODUCTION

In September 2019, Ofsted introduced changes to the inspection framework. They continued to report on all aspects of a school, as set out in section five of the Education Act 2005, but changed the judgement headings and introduced a 'quality of education' judgement.

The revised inspection methodology, which supports the education inspection framework, has combined aspects of the previous key judgements of 'teaching, learning and assessment' and 'outcomes' to provide a more holistic view of standards, particularly focusing on the curriculum.

The new methodology also saw the introductions of 'deep dives', which involves gathering evidence on the curriculum intent, implementation and impact. The Ofsted deep dive is one of the key elements of the new Ofsted inspection framework's curriculum focus.

In any school, the primary focus must be the education pupils are receiving day to day in the classroom. In order to establish if what pupils are receiving in the class is a quality education, we must be clear on the purpose of what we are delivering.

We have therefore utilised the Ofsted 'deep dive' framework as a system to ensure we are focussed on the quality of education and are able to accurately direct resources to achieve an outstanding curriculum. Our staff have looked at the subjects we offer and our cohort of pupils. Our staff have reflected and asked the questions.

1. What is the intention of this programme of study? (Intent)

Only when we can answer this question do we move on to the next question.

2. How should we best deliver this programme of study? (Implementation)

Only when we can answer this question do we move on to the next question.

3. How will we know we have been successful? (Impact)

At the core of our deep-dive approach is to consider and evaluate how education flows from intention to implementation to impact within our school. Without doing this, it would be impossible to form a valid judgement on the quality of the education we provide. Moreover, in completing the deep dives, we are able to ask ourselves pertinent questions and are able to accurately identify areas for improvement, from which we are able to quickly respond to provide necessary improvements in the quality of the education we deliver.

In summary, the deep-dive approach adopted by Ofsted has been developed to allow for accurate assessments of the quality of education to be made. It has been seen that this assessment process is a highly effective tool and we have embraced this tool as a regular feature of our self-assessment process in considering the quality of education we offer.

# CURRICULUM AREA: FIRST AID

## Intent

All pupils at Cornfields and Belle Vue schools study first aid. We place great importance on this as it is a skill that can be called upon at anytime – by any individual. First aid may be the difference between life and death. People who are first aid-trained are likely to be more confident and more likely to render assistance to those who require it.

As a core outcome, first aid training teaches pupils to prioritise injuries, giving the most seriously injured or ill the absolute best chance. As well as equipping pupils with the knowledge to establish whether someone needs further care and whether that care should be given by the GP, at a hospital or via paramedic intervention – first aid training also provides them with increased confidence and self-esteem in a subject that will stay with them for life.

We seek to develop well-rounded pupils who will contribute to their communities – knowledge of first aid will provide them with an invaluable tool for this purpose.

St John's Ambulance is the nation's leading first aid training provider and pupils will have access to approved resources in order to achieve a recognised St John's Ambulance first aid certificate.

## Implementation

Our pupils follow the first aid syllabus set out by St John's Ambulance, engaging in both theory and practical exercises prior to undertaking a formal assessment of their first aid skills against the standards.

Our first aid course covers a broad range of topics to enable pupils to confidently manage emergency situations and provide a first aid response to a casualty. The training is suitable for all pupils to cover first aid as it can be easily differentiated between year groups.

The lessons are delivered by following a step-by-step checklist of all targets that need to be met through each section. There is a mix of theory and practical lessons. Pupils look at different types of first aid equipment and become familiar with different items that will aid their confidence if they find themselves in real-life situations.

Pupils will complete written work modelled around the standards, view demonstration videos, take part in group discussions on first aid situations and experience role play throughout.



# Impact

First aid is an essential life skill that is invaluable to our pupils at Cornfields and Belle Vue. By successfully completing the St John's Ambulance first aid certificate, our pupils remain safe by appreciating risk and being able to help each other if they are involved in a medical emergency.

Through their training, pupils will gain increased authority and leadership skills, which will lead to self-confidence and self-esteem. This helps their effectiveness throughout their lives. Pupils who have studied and achieved a first aid qualification will further develop a sense of community.

There are ten compelling reasons why learning first aid will be of benefit to pupils:

1. First aid saves lives
2. First aid reduces recovery time
3. First aid reduces hospital time
4. First aid prevents medical situations deteriorating
5. First aid can reduce unnecessary visits to hospital
6. Competent first aid can reduce the amount of pain experienced by casualties
7. Provision of crucial communication for emergency services
8. First aid increases awareness and reduces your susceptibility to accidents
9. First aid better equips you to be prepared for anything
10. First aid empowers you, raising confidence and self-esteem

By linking all areas of the sequence of work to AQA Unit Awards, pupils will have a portfolio of evidence showing the knowledge and achievements in this subject – as well as a St John's Ambulance Certificate at the end of the academic year to show completion.

## IN SUMMARY

The core purpose of our schools is to 'improve the life chances of children'. In short – we aim to reverse and eradicate the known correlation between poor outcomes in life – and factors that have made pupils vulnerable to underachievement at school. We achieve this by going above and beyond, setting high expectations and improving outcomes by working together with others.

We have a clear and compelling vision about the knowledge and skills that pupils need in order to take advantage of opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. Our school ethos and curriculum are firmly embedded with a belief that we can powerfully address social disadvantage.

We are clear about the end points the curriculum is building towards – and what pupils need to know and be able to do to reach those end points. Our school curriculum is planned and sequenced so that new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught previously.

Ofsted has outlined that schools who take a radical approach to the curriculum – with effective sequencing, structure and implementation – will be assessed favourably. We welcome this autonomy and believe that the curriculum needs to be radically reviewed, as doing more of the same will result in the status quo of underperformance of disadvantaged groups being the norm.

A well-constructed, well-taught curriculum will lead to pupils learning more and – and therefore achieving positive results. We aim to ensure that all of our pupils acquire the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.