



Key Stage 2
**CURRICULUM
INFORMATION**

2019 - 2020

HILL HOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL

HILL HOUSE SCHOOL EXISTS:

To provide high quality independent education in a supportive, happy and family-based community.

To help develop the academic and other talents of each student in order to educate the whole person, within a framework of encouraging and disciplined pastoral care.

To make the pursuit of excellence and the provision of outstanding opportunities central to every aspect of the school's work

To enable our children to be confident, capable, considerate and compassionate people, who develop into adults with independent minds and a proper sense of values, service and responsibility.



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KEY STAGE 2 STAFF 2019/2020

HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL – Mr J Hall

DEPUTY HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL – Mrs C Leach

YEAR 3 STAFF – 3B Mrs J Brown, 3C Miss C Coleman.

YEAR 4 STAFF – 4L Mrs C Leach, 4S Mrs D Smith.

YEAR 5 STAFF – 5E Mrs S Ellwood, 5M Mrs C Mason, 5L Mr J Lawrie.

YEAR 6 STAFF – 6H Mrs A Holland, 6A Mr M Anderson, 6M Mr S Marsh.

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

ICT, Music, Drama, MFL, Physical Education and Games.

SUPPORT STAFF – Mrs J Bent (Head of Learning Support - SENCO), Mrs S Matchett (SENSO), and Mr P Cattell (Academic Intervention Coordinator – KS3 and 4.)

TRANSITION

At Hill House we want our pupils to be happy and confident in all aspects of school life. We also want them to achieve their full potential in all areas of the curriculum. We are committed to the need for a smooth transition between different phases.

Entering a new situation in school can be a challenging time for pupils. Some points of transition, for example from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 and even purely from one year group to another are particularly so. The transition between Key Stage 2 and the Senior School is equally challenging as the children move from a class teacher/classroom to a specialist teacher environment. At Hill House we want our pupils to experience a smooth transition through all stages so that the pace and quality of learning are maintained and ensure that pupils continue to make excellent progress.

Evidence suggests that for a smooth transition to take place there needs to be a combination of:

- effective communication between teachers on each side of the transition,
- parental engagement,
- a thorough induction programme, and
- a focus on both continuity and progression in pastoral and curricular content.

The children will recently have experienced a 'Moving-Up' morning. This was for pupils to spend time in their new classrooms with their teacher and pupils who will be together in September.

'Moving-Up' morning will also focus on new routines including cloakroom practices, lunchtime rota and assemblies. New pupils/teachers joining Hill House for the following term are encouraged to attend.

We start thinking about the move to Senior School early on in Key Stage 2 and during this time a number of opportunities are put in place for pupils to familiarise themselves with the Senior School. There are various academic, sporting, artistic and musical opportunities for Junior School pupils to meet with the Senior School specialist staff.

EXPECTATIONS

- Confident and competent learners
- High expectations - inspiration, motivation and challenges
- Safe and stimulating environment, mutual respect
- High attendance and punctuality
- Giving children a voice within the school
- Goals that stretch and challenge pupils
- Modelling behaviour - respect and politeness expected in and outside class

A DAY IN KEY STAGE 2

Before 8.00am	-	Arrive at school, go to the Dining Hall for Breakfast Club**
8.00am-8.20am	-	Arrive at school by 8.20am, assemble in Junior Music and Drama Studio. There is always a member of staff on duty in the Hall and a senior member of staff on the door as you arrive
8.00am-9.00am	-	Activities*
8.20am-9.00am	-	Up to Form Rooms for Registration
9.00am-11.00am	-	Period 1 to 3
11.00am-11.20am	-	Break Time (bring in a healthy snack – no NUTS please)
11.20am-12.40pm	-	Periods 4 and 5
12.40pm-1.50pm	-	Lunch time and lunchtime activities* (1.00pm-1.40pm)
1.50pm-3.50pm	-	Period 6 to 8
3.50pm-4.00pm	-	Registration
4.00pm-5.00pm	-	Activities*
5.00pm-6.00pm	-	Wraparound**

* Children are required to do at least 2 activities per week.

** There is a charge for our Breakfast Club and Wraparound services.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Homework

Year 6 pupils are expected to do 45 minutes a night. This will include three written pieces of work in English, Mathematics and Science. They will also be expected to read every night, practise times tables, spellings and revise skills on websites such as Key Stage 2/3 Bitesize.

Reading

In Year 5 and 6 pupils are also expected to read every day at home and at school. Year 6 have a selection of age appropriate books from which they can choose. All pupils in Year 5 and 6 will read to an adult in school at least once a week but they are expected to be more independent at this age and read for pleasure whenever they can. Parental support is appreciated at all age levels and they are '**Never too old to be read to!**'

English and Mathematics

Across the Key Stage English and Mathematics are taught to guidelines that originate in The National Curriculum but are adapted to suit Hill House pupils. There will be a weekly spelling test, please encourage your children to practise.

Science

- Covers a variety of topics including: living things and their habitats, the human body, evolution and inheritance, light and electricity.

History

- Celts, Romans and This is France.

Geography

- Africa (Michaelmas)
Raging Rivers (Lent)
France (Summer)

Please note, the curriculum is subject to change throughout the year where necessary.

Music

All pupils will be learning to play the recorder and will also be encouraged to learn another instrument and join a musical ensemble/choir such as The Wind Machine, The Junior School Orchestra, Junior Percussion Ensemble, Junior Chorus and Junior Ensemble (choir).

Regular demonstrations are given by our team of Peripatetic Music Teachers and free taster lessons are offered at any time of the year on all orchestral instruments including voice, piano, electric/bass guitar and drums.

Sport – Years 4 - 6

In Year 6 the children will have 5 periods of Games spread across the week and then 1 period of PE. There is a fixtures program that runs throughout the year. The main sports are as follows:

Boys - Rugby, Hockey, Football and Cricket

Girls - Hockey, Netball, Rounders

Other Curriculum Subjects:

Religious Education, Art, PSHCE, Thinking, Modern Foreign Languages, ICT, Games, Drama.

EXPECTATIONS IN YEAR 6

In Year 6 we expect:

- Children to understand that independence and organisation is vital as they approach Senior School.
- Children to take more responsibility for themselves and their own learning.
- Children to keep their School Planner neat and correctly filled in with homework information and advice.
- Children to produce excellent homework and to hand it in on time (Homework Diaries/ School Planner must be signed by an adult every night)
- Children to become a true B.E.A.R. representative.
- Children to set a good example and be aware of the fact that all children in the Junior School will be looking up at them.
- Children to aspire to be a good citizen.
- Children to participate in at least two activities a week – see school website.
- Uniform – The children can wear either summer or winter uniform when they begin the school year in September. After October half term, winter uniform becomes compulsory. Children remain in winter uniform during Lent term. Summer uniform is optional after the Easter break; however this becomes compulsory after May Day. Please see the uniform booklet for more information.

REWARDS, RECOGNITION, SANCTIONS

3 Weekly Grades

In Years 5 and above 3 Weekly Grades are used to inform pupils how they are working in all subjects. Parents are informed of these via e-mail.

Target grades from (A* to E) are set termly for every subject. Specialist teachers award grades for both effort and progress every three weeks, using *, + and -.

- + indicates steady effort or progress
- * indicates solid progress
- - indicates there is some variation from expected progress and a reason is stated

Please note: for a '-' grade, there are a selection of standard reasons that teachers can select from, for either effort or progress. For example:

Effort

- 1 Forgets equipment
- 2 Homework not submitted
- 3 Poor homework/coursework
- 4 Poor classwork
- 5 Poor attention
- 6 Behaviour in class
- 7 Too talkative
- 8 Does not follow instruction
- 9 Lack of independent study

Progress

- 1 Found the current topic demanding
- 2 Failed to grasp concepts
- 3 Consolidate learning
- 4 Work not of usual standard
- 5 Needs to ask for help
- 6 Poor test score
- 7 Progress affected by absence
- 8 Written work not of required standard
- 9 Organisation of ideas

All topics fluctuate in complexity so attainment grades and target grades may vary over the year. When a pupil has maintained a consistent level of stars for effort and progress over a term then the target grade may be raised by staff.

Once published, the pupil should record their 3 Weekly Grades in their school planner and their class teacher will further reward them in their planner with an extra house point per plus (+) and two extra house points for every star (*) awarded.

Minus (-) grades may be awarded to a child in either, or both, effort and progress. If one minus is recorded the class teacher and child will discuss strategies for its removal. Two or more minuses on a 3 Weekly Grade may result in your child being given a Focus Card until the next 3 Weekly Grades are released. Parents will be informed by Head of Key Stage.

Focus Cards:

Focus cards are designed to help the pupil to improve their behaviour or attitude to learning. Staff responsible for the child during the day will assess the child's behaviour at the end of each session. This includes playtimes, lunchtimes and lesson times. The Focus Card is checked daily by form-teachers for any additional comments. The card is taken home at the end of each day and is signed by the parents.

Being on a Focus Card means that a child may not be selected to represent the school at events or participate in visits off-site.

If at the next grading the minus marks are less than two then the focus card will be removed. Should there be no improvement further contact home will be made by the Deputy Head of Junior School.

After two focus cards, an appointment with the pupil, parents and Head of Junior School will be arranged.

In extreme cases of misbehaviour, a child may be suspended from school for a fixed period by the Head of Junior School.

UPPER KEY STAGE 2 PRIVILEGES

Privileges for Upper Key Stage 2 Pupils include:

- Tuck Shop once a week (Year 5 and Year 6)
- Use of Cusworth Library for Homework and reading during lunchtime break for Year 6
- Monitors (Year 6)
- House Captains and Junior School Prefects (Year 6 – applications and interviews take place in Summer term of Year 5)

KEY STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT AND PARENTS' EVENINGS

As a staff we will assess regularly in the daily lesson and keep records. End of term assessments take place, where the tests are of a formal set-up. These grades/marks are put onto our tracking system to keep in school and are passed up to teachers in the next year group for preparation and planning.

The end of year full assessment is the main assessment and gives us a good idea of how far the child has progressed since the previous year group.

During Year 5 the Hill House staff look closely at results to highlight any concerns we have about possible difficulties that will be encountered in Year 6. If there is a concern the parents of the child will be informed during the Lent term and we will collaborate to put together a plan to help the child progress further.

In Year 6 the children will sit the Year 7 Entrance Examination in January. Entrance to the Senior School is dependent upon a good school record and a pass in this set of examinations.



Hill House School is an independent day school for girls and boys from 3 to 18, with small classes and approximately 750 pupils.

We achieve the top GCSE results in the district, and sports achievements at national levels, with many distinctions in other areas.

We pride ourselves in being able to bring out the potential in all our children. I hope very much to be able to welcome you to our school so that you can appreciate at first hand its remarkable family atmosphere.

David Holland – Headmaster.

