



At Birdsedge First School we aim to create a school that provides the 'Best' of everything, for every person. We want to give our children **Brilliance** in their knowledge through a broad and balanced curriculum. We aim to provide **Excellence** in every child's education by making sure lessons are consistent and use strong and high quality teaching. Through both of these aspects we hope that children will enjoy 'learning to learn' through developing basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values through discreet subjects. We also hope children develop curiosity, enquiry, resilience and an openness to new ideas. We want all children to be **Successful** in their wider lives both now and in the future due to the knowledge, skills and experiences we

give them. We want our children to be unique individuals who celebrate their own place in a diverse community and wider world. Community involvement and local knowledge and traditions will have an active role in this. Ultimately, we want all of this to happen in a safe, positive and inclusive school culture where every child feels safe and happy through the **Trust** we have in each other. Our children should leave Birdsedge First with a sense of belonging and a confidence for decision making that helps them to be lifelong learners and ready for their next stage in education.

Next year we will stay loyal to small class sizes in groups of two year groups for our core subjects of Phonics, Maths and English every morning. Reception and Class 1 with Miss Hutton, Year 2 and Year 3 with Miss Haigh and Miss Peace and Year 4 and Year 5 with Ms Spark. This will ensure consistency of teaching across these core subjects and allow for very small teacher to pupil ratio. This will also be the case for the teaching of Geography and History. With our topics design for these two subjects, we will be making sure children take a journey around the world and back through time as they move through school. This has been planned with progression at the heart, making sure children learn more and remember more year by year, always revisiting and building on studies from the year before. The centre pages of this booklet show what this journey will look like.

The way all other subjects in the wider curriculum are taught will be enhanced next year to better support the curriculum expectations and requirements. During some afternoons, children will be taught in groups better suited to the different curriculums. This being Reception as an Early Years group, Year 1 and Year 2 together as a Key Stage 1 group and Year 3, 4 and 5 together as a Key Stage 2 group. Teachers will teach fewer key subjects to all children across school during these lessons, including Miss Peace who will be with us full time next year to support with this structure and inspire us all with her Art and Modern Foreign Language knowledge and skills. We hope this will support teachers in becoming real experts and specialists in the subjects that they teach and lead. Something that is really important in a smaller school where teachers carry a large weight in subject leadership. All of our curriculum is going to be enhanced with more trips, visitors and experiences for **every** class across the school year. That is a promise. I also really want to make stronger links with other nearby schools through our curriculum, especially for our older children to extend friendship groups with other pupils who will move to the Middle School at the same time.

Overarching this curriculum will be key themes that support children's personal, social and emotional development. These are drivers for whole school assemblies, House Point Challenges and generally overarch everything we do in school that half term. The six themes are:

We are Respectful. We Belong. We are Safe. We are Happy. We are Responsible. We are Inclusive.

These are supported and enhanced through our Outdoor Curriculum with the six linked topics:

Working Together. Being Adventurous. Problem Solving. Our Place in the World. Our Environment. Our Wonderful World.

Next year we stay loyal to our Forest Friday afternoons where we hope children can again work in mixed age groups, more than this though, with an improved outdoor provision after the summer work, we aim to bring outdoor learning into every day and every subject as much as we can.

Our Geography Curriculum: A Journey Around the World at Birdsedge First School



Brilliant Birdsedge

Each school year begins with a local study linking to History and Geography in an area close to children's locality.



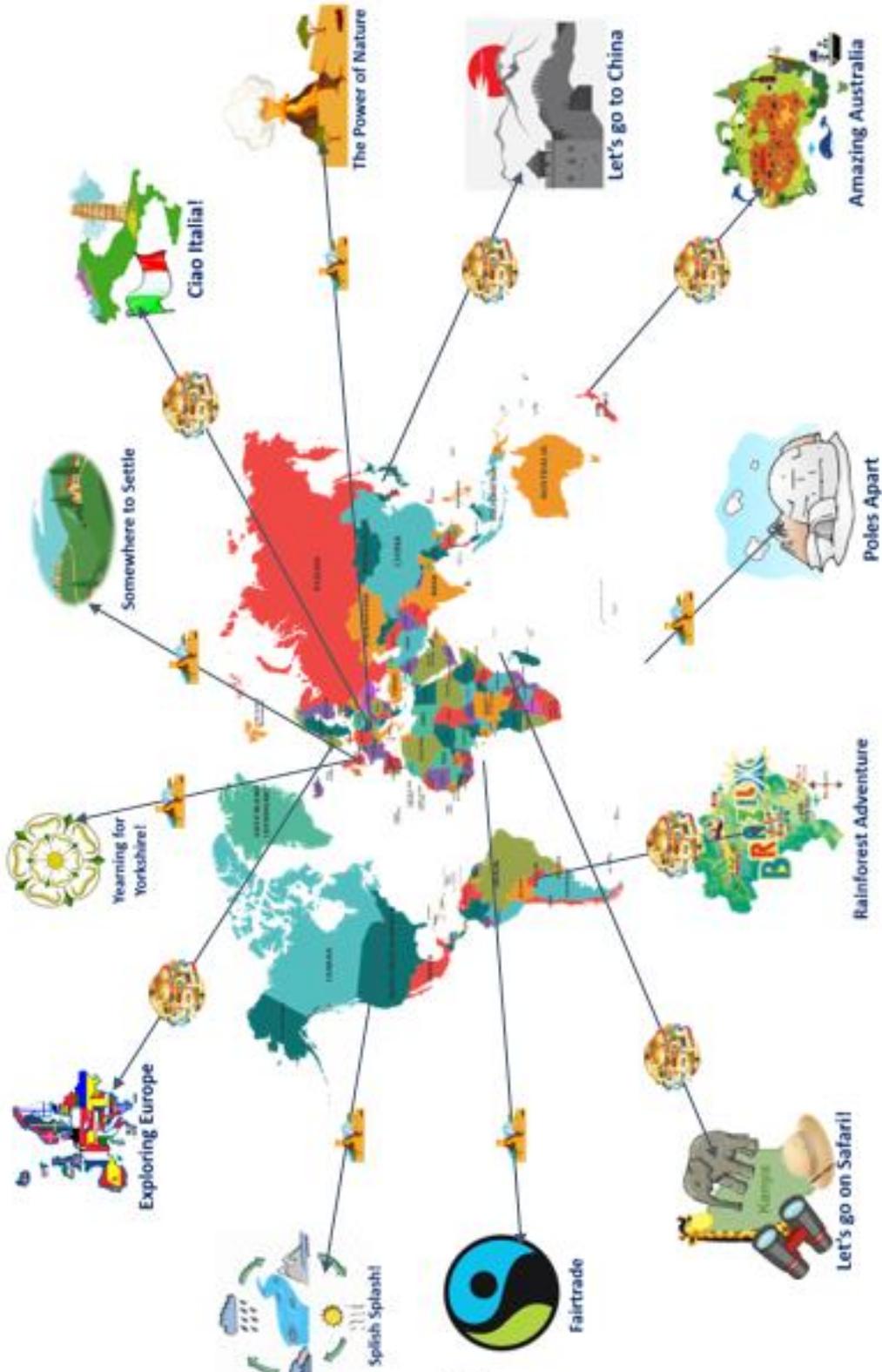
Our Wonderful World

Through Our Wonderful Word Topics children learn about Human and Physical Features of the world in which they live.



Countries and Cultures

Each Year Children study a focus Country and compare this to a different area of the UK.



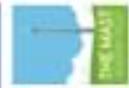
Birdsedge
First School

Brilliance
in our knowledge

Excellence
in our Education

Success
in our lives

Trust
in each other



Our History Curriculum: A Journey Through Time at Birdseye First School

Each year pupils will study three History focused topics, each one travelling further back through time:



Brilliant Birdseye



Explorers and Discoveries



A Journey to the Past



Birdseye
First School

Brilliance
in our knowledge

Excellence
in our Education

Success
in our lives

Trust
in each other



THE MAST



The School Community

Like for everyone, the year has been a challenging one and there have been limitations to what we have been able to do physically or practically with the wider community due to restrictions. However, we are so proud of the work we have achieved this year in these circumstances and feel positive in how much further forward we can move next year in driving Birdsedge First School to be the BEST school for the community it serves.



We have been working hard with the Out of School Club this year to work towards the Club being part of school during next academic year, rather than a stand alone business. This is something that both the club and the school feel would be really positive. This would ensure more security for the future of the club and bring with it more opportunities. Our pilot Summer Holiday Club hopefully being the start of a Holiday Club offer next year too.

Our Tree Tots sessions for 2-4 year olds have got off to a brilliant start this half term, building and growing each week. It has been warmly received by both the children and parents/carers attending and is something that that we fully aim to continue and grow further next academic year. Provisions and opportunities for pre-school age children are really important to us and will remain a priority in September.



In addition to the above, next year there are other groups I want to reach and provide for through school and I would really appreciate your help and input around how we do this. I have made a short survey around potential groups I would be keen to set up next school year for Birdsedge and the surrounding community. This is aimed at all ages from groups for babies and parents to groups for adults.

If you could please take a few minutes to fill this in and have your say, that would be hugely appreciated and also incredibly helpful in getting this right. Once you have filled it in yourself, if you could share this with friends and family in the locality and to any social media nearby community groups you are in this would be appreciated.

<https://forms.office.com/r/8KLomez2zU>

Use the link here to be taken directly to the survey. I will also share this on the school website and social media pages as another way of sharing it with others.



On this day twelve months ago I was writing my first letter to families, introducing myself as new Headteacher to the school. A year later, I feel like I have been here always - Birdsedge is in my heart and runs through my veins. Thank you for being such a wonderful community this year and working together through what has been a year of so many challenges in so many ways. I look forward to the year ahead, which I hope will bring far more opportunities for me to be able to work with you in our journey to being the Birdsedge BEST for everyone.