

A parents' guide to the primary curriculum

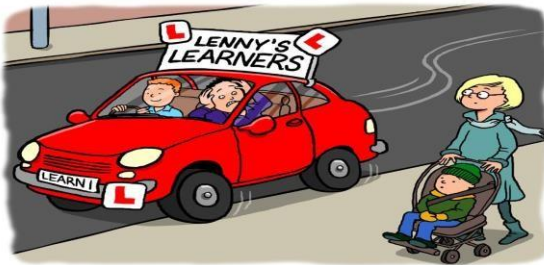
Introduction

This year, we have redesigned our curriculum to ensure that we provide your children with an exciting, rich, mastery based curriculum that is based on current research. Research shows that children learn more, remember more and can do more if they are taught topics in smaller amounts of time and the same topics are repeated at a more advancing level the following year. For this reason we have moved away from teaching 3 topics a year, 1 per long term (which totals 6 new topics over 2 years) to teaching in subject blocks. These are designed to be exciting and engaging for primary school aged children and have been carefully selected by Chris Quigley, who is a well-known education specialist.

Chris Quigley has provided the following information to help parents understand how it works:

The 2014 National Curriculum is designed around the concept of Mastery.

Think of Mastery being like the process of driving a car.



Novice or beginner
(BASIC)



Qualified
(ADVANCING)

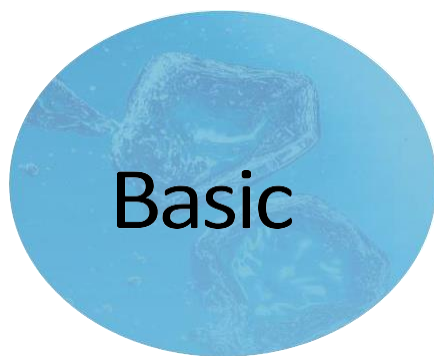


Expert
(DEEP)

The Essentials Curriculum is broken down into 3 milestones.

In each milestone, pupils may demonstrate three levels of understanding of the content: **Basic**, **Advancing** and **Deep** learning.

These three levels of understanding represent 3 cognitive domains:



Basic

Low-level cognitive demand. Involves following instructions.



Advancing

Higher level of cognitive demand. Involves mental processing beyond recall. Requires some degree of decision making.



Deep

Cognitive demands are complex and abstract. Involves problems with multiple steps or more than one possible answer. Requires justification of answers.

The diagram below shows progression through these cognitive domains within each milestone.

Milestone 1

The standard to reach by the end of
Year 2

B

Basic

A

Advancing

D

Deep

Milestone 2

The standard to reach by the end of
Year 4

B

Basic

A

Advancing

D

Deep

Milestone 3

The standard to reach by the end of
Year 6

B

Basic

A

Advancing

D

Deep