



Curriculum Drivers at Abbeyfields

Every child is a reader	<i>"Reading is the gateway skill that makes all other learning possible." Barack Obama</i> <i>"The children should learn that reading is pleasure, not just something that teachers make you do in school." Beverly Cleary</i> Reading is a priority at Abbeyfields and we want all our children, regardless of their backgrounds and starting points, to be fluent readers and to have a love of reading. We use the Read Write Inc phonics programme to get children off to a good start in "learning to read" so we can equip them as soon as possible to be "reading to learn." We choose engaging texts to use with the children as prompts for their work in English lessons and ensure that we provide high quality books to be used across the curriculum. We promote reading for enjoyment with daily read-aloud sessions for all ages and also set aside time for quiet or shared reading as appropriate to the age and stage of the children.
Every child is a vocabulary expert	<i>"The more words you know, the more clearly and powerfully you will think...and the more ideas you will invite into your mind." Wilfred Funk</i> Acquisition of vocabulary to enhance communication, articulacy and performance in a range of situations - day to day, subject specific, to varied audiences - is something we aim to provide for all our children. Words are powerful and give children knowledge and self-confidence.
Every child is special	<i>"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." Aristotle</i> Our children come from a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences and starting points. We seek to create a 'level playing field' for them to develop personal skills in a secure and nurturing environment. We want our children to have an appreciation of the essential knowledge they need to enable their future success. We want them to be aspirational, ambitious and believe that 'anything is possible.'
Every child is an advocate of diversity	<i>"Diversity is the one true thing we have in common....celebrate it every day." Winston Churchill</i> Abbeyfields is situated in Morpeth, Northumberland. The area is predominantly rural, White British, with few opportunities for the children to learn, first-hand, about different religions and cultures. Our curriculum seeks to address this. We also aim to challenge stereotypes and ensure the children understand equality of opportunity. We want them to understand the world and how they can be a positive part of it. Our school values - respect, teamwork, pride, kindness - support us in this.