

## INTENT FOR UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

At Davyhulme Primary School, the Understanding the World curriculum is designed to: recognise children's prior learning from previous settings and their experiences at home, provide first hand learning experiences, whilst allowing the children to build resilience, ambition and integrity. Every child is recognised as a unique individual and we celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. The ability to learn in this area is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values. We provide enhancement opportunities and provocations to engage learning and believe that our first experiences of school should be happy and positive, enabling us to develop a lifelong love of learning.

Community involvement is an integral and essential part of the UTW curriculum as we celebrate local traditions, learning new skills to enable the children to take an active role in events throughout the year.

Children leave the Nursery with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community, ready to start Reception class the following academic year. They have the confidence and skills to make decisions and self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.

Our UTW curriculum is designed with knowledge at its heart to ensure that children develop a strong vocabulary base and understanding of the world. The curriculum promotes long term learning and we believe that progress means knowing more and remembering more. We have developed a curriculum inspired by current research on how memory works, to ensure that children are taught in a way in which they can remember the content in future years.

One of our central UTW aims is to ensure that our pupils are both "interesting and interested". We want them to be 'interesting' to talk to because they know a great deal about the world and 'interested' in finding out more. We understand that knowledge is 'sticky', in other words, the more pupils know the easier it is for them to know more.

The four cornerstones vitally important in the 'intent' of the UTW curriculum are:

**Engage:** We hook learners with a memorable experience which provides a context for learning. We believe in asking questions to find out the children's interests and spark their curiosity using interesting questions and starting points.

**Develop:** We believe in teaching the children facts and information which enables deeper understanding and knowledge. We provide creative opportunities for making and doing and allow time for consolidation.

**Innovate:** We provide our children with imaginative scenarios and encourage creative thinking enabling children to apply precisely learned skills. We encourage enterprise and independent thinking and provide opportunities for collaborative working and problem solving.

**Express:** We develop our environments to encourage reflective talk and create opportunities for shared evaluation. We always celebrate and share children's successes as well as identify next steps for learning.