



# Enquiry at Barnfields Primary School

We believe that choosing the right context to engage our children in their learning is vital in fostering a love of learning and also maintaining our high standards. Our curriculum is planned around the distinctive needs of our children, promoting curiosity and interest. Within each topic, open-ended questions to investigate are presented to the children, engaging and motivating them as learners. These questions are designed to provide the context for learning in most subject areas, enabling the children to further develop and deepen their knowledge and understanding. Children are encouraged to drive their own learning forward by questioning, investigating and solving problems.

## EYFS

Children at Barnfields develop their skills of enquiry from a very early age. The curriculum in EYFS is inspired by the *curious nature* of the children. Through continuous provision, the children are actively encouraged to ask questions about the immediate world and the wider world unknown to them. They are provided with time to engage in *sensory exploration and play-based contexts*, provoking investigations and providing them with opportunities to research their own answers. Learning opportunities allow the children to become more flexible in their thinking, moving comfortably between *the real and the imaginary world*.

## KS1

During KS1, children *question aspects of their immediate world* and they have the opportunity to reflect on events and places in their own locality. Each topic ensures that *all children engage in well-crafted, enquiry-based questions* posed by the teacher, enabling the facilitation of knowledge and *critical thinking*. The children are given *freedom to shape ideas* through their individual and their shared culture. They start to understand more about the world and wonder why celebrations, beliefs and attitudes are different in other places of the world.

## LKS2

Enquiry-based questions are a fundamental aspect of the curriculum at Barnfields, and these increase in complexity as the children enter KS2. A series of sequenced lessons are integrated by a *direct focus on a single 'enquiry question'* and within which children build knowledge systematically and cumulatively in order to be able to answer that question by the end of it. Within each topic studied in LKS2, the children are provided with opportunities to *ask and answer their own questions* whilst also *challenging the way things have been done in the past*.

## UKS2

The children fully engage in *deep and thought-provoking questions* in every topic studied, drawing upon their own experiences and knowledge throughout. They *challenge the status quo* and are encouraged to *respectfully discuss a range of current affairs* and form their own opinions. They communicate this clearly in an effective manner, continuing to pursue their own opinions and beliefs. Through sustained attention to a single question, the children are able to see the links between one lesson and the next and between subjects, enabling them to *make connections and draw contrasts*.