

# Oak National Academy – National Curriculum comparison

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<https://www.thenational.academy/>

Take time to look at the **menu** on the right of the home page before exploring the lessons.

This summary reflects the **Primary** curriculum only.

## WWW (What Works Well)

- Overview of all learning for 6 weeks is available at this link (**good place to start**) [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vTWwVJb\\_hQyPFhhr8wtm\\_jLcYpmRgUVqKF1M7hqO4Yke85cQCh6H3jRQOk8OLzCiy1v1776XeakAXj/pubhtml](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vTWwVJb_hQyPFhhr8wtm_jLcYpmRgUVqKF1M7hqO4Yke85cQCh6H3jRQOk8OLzCiy1v1776XeakAXj/pubhtml)
- Generally **pitched to appropriate NC year group** or KS (but I haven't watched all videos and only week 1 and 2 are online at the moment)
- States that it fits alongside **BBC Bitesize**
- Covers En, Ma (Phonics) and Hi, Geog, Sc, Spanish, some music and PE (Joe Wicks)
- Lessons link in **sequence** so really need to do them in order (harder to use the lessons as standalone)
- Each lesson can be paused to carry out activity or get resources
- Most need basic equipment – pencil, ruler paper
- Clear lesson **structure** set out on a slide which usually includes key **vocab** and **recap of prior learning**. Lesson then move onto **key content** and then some further stretch or application.
- Lessons (particularly foundation subjects) are ambitious and provide challenge but this means that, for some pupils, pitch may become too hard - again **viewing the video** before using with classes is a **must**
- **Vocabulary** is a priority in all learning
- **Short quizzes** at the start of each lesson to recap prior learning
- English lessons include **spellings** from Y2 up. Reception and Y1 include phonics. Sequence of English across a week includes: reading comprehension, grammar and some writing

## EBI (Even Better If...)

- Need to **check the lessons** to know **exactly** what the content is
- **Consistent format** across all subjects (teacher talking and teachers trying to get children to join in!) but this could become monotonous. It depends a little on the teacher although most are animated – suggest that **other resources are used alongside** e.g. Bitesize or own resources.
- History – seems to cover areas of history that aren't as popular - this could be positive as it would mean you may have to worry about covering learning you want to use in future years. Coverage includes: Beyond 1066, WW1, 20<sup>th</sup> Century conflict
- Y2 History is Shang Dynasty (probable link to NC - global events beyond living memory)
- Videos are **heavy on streaming** demand which may be a problem in some homes and with some broadband
- By design, there's a **lot of teacher talk** which runs alongside ppt images (still images with some annotation)
- For **Reception - Phonics is pitched below expectation for this time of the year** – initial sounds only and application in CVC with some handwriting practice – **other phonic resources** (available via the padlet) provide better opportunity to match to need. However, phonics is pitched so nursery can join in and is more appropriate for them in the summer term. Phonic pronunciation isn't as strong as it could be (e.g. /uh/sounds on some consonants)
- Sharing of stories doesn't work as well as it could - in one video the book couldn't be seen on the screen very well.
- Some **variety in the presentation** depending on teacher

- Good **depth** in some areas e.g. Y4 science (light reflection – Covers specular and diffuse reflection also lessons progress to refraction and splitting of light into colours which goes **beyond NC content**)
- **Knowledge** content is strong
- **Links between other subjects** are made explicit e.g. Science lesson on light covers angle of turn from maths curriculum
- Video lessons address **common misconceptions** which might occur and do this with precision in some of the examples I looked at e.g. maths symmetry lesson Y5 – clearly teaches the need to check points are reflected equally from the line of reflection
- **Specialist curriculum** launches 4<sup>th</sup> May for pupils with SEND
- **Justin Welby will lead a worship on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> at 10am** also with Gavin Williamson – theme is **Hope**
- Faith at home **weekly collective worship** will be available very soon in conjunction with the **Church of England** for those of all faiths and none
- **Joe Wick's daily workouts** are linked
- Site stresses that the materials will **work best when teachers invite pupils to share their learning** via email or through video calls etc.
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#### In summary

- Given the speed at which the resources have been put together they provide some **useful resources, but they need to be used judiciously and appropriately for your children.** They must be checked by teachers and they should follow up with their classes to get the most out of the resources.
- Will provide suitable resources to support **a diet of learning materials** (of different formats) to support remote learning.
- May also provide an element of CPD in terms of how introduce vocab, checks on prior learning, addressing misconceptions and about the pitch of knowledge content but **they don't replace the well-known teacher in the classroom!**