

"Giving children the keys to unlock their future"



St Peter's C of E Academy

St Peter's C of E Academy Curriculum Statement

At St Peter's C of E Academy, we follow the objectives taken from the National Curriculum 2014. Using our knowledge of our children and the community we serve, we have designed a creative and engaging curriculum, which will stimulate, inspire and raise standards for all children.

Our Curriculum is:

- Ambitious for all of our children – helping them to know more, remember more and understand more.
- Coherently planned and sequenced, providing opportunities for personal and academic development.
- Vocabulary rich to allow children to develop language skills.
- Bespoke to our local area and community.
- Rooted in our school vision to allow children to develop academically, personally and healthily.
- Reviewed regularly and adapted to best meet children's needs.

How do we implement the intentions of our curriculum?

At the core of St Peter's Academy's curriculum is the National Curriculum. We have used this to plan topics, which inspire our children, whilst enabling them to develop key knowledge and skills in a systematic and progressive way. We have considered how our curriculum will be implemented to ensure that this happens:

- Topics/units of work contain a clear learning path, which enables the children to build on their prior knowledge.
- Connections are made between new learning and prior knowledge.
- Children are provided with the opportunity to apply their Maths and English skills across the curriculum.
- The use of pre-teaching enables children to access new vocabulary within lessons.
- The children have access to a broad range of experiences, trips and visitors.
- Growth Mindset behaviours are threaded throughout the whole curriculum.
- Collective worship enables our children to understand and apply the vision and values of the school.
- Skills progressions are used to ensure the children develop their knowledge and skills in a progressive manner.

Subject Specific Implementation

- *Reading* - At St Peter's Reading is at the heart of our English curriculum. We promote a love of literature and encourage all of our children to read widely. We invest in early reading to provide the best possible start for our children. We believe that being a confident reader underpins the whole curriculum and the children practise their skills they've learned across the curriculum. Reading for pleasure is encouraged through the use of our school library, the sharing of class texts and book recommendations from teachers and peers. 'Letters and Sounds' is used to support the teaching of phonics.
- *Writing* – Our approach to writing is text based allowing our children opportunities to develop their composition, spelling and grammatical skills through deep engagement with high quality books. Spelling patterns and key word lists outlined in the National Curriculum are taught to the children through discrete teaching of spelling and application in English and wider curriculum lessons.
- *Maths* - White Rose Maths is used to support the teaching of maths, enabling the children to develop fluency in concepts before applying this knowledge to reasoning and problem solving activities. Mathletics and Times Table Rockstars, which are online resources, are used to enhance children's maths learning outside of the classroom.
- *PE* - Our children love to be physical and enjoy exercise! All children have daily use of our running track to complete a 'daily mile'. The children are able to develop fundamental movement skills through the use of REAL PE. The children are also able to apply their skills to invasion games, gymnastics and a variety of ball and team games through our PE lessons and after school clubs.
- *RE* - St Peter's children enjoy learning about different faiths and cultures. Understanding Christianity and Discovery RE are schemes of work that are used to support the teaching and learning of RE. The children study Christianity for 3 terms of the year and then study a different faith in the other terms. We want our children to be open minded, tolerant and respectful.

- *Art* – St Peter’s children love art! Children are taught key techniques and skills and are encouraged to have the confidence to express themselves artistically through a range of mediums.
- *DT* – ‘Plan, Make, Evaluate’ is key to our D&T curriculum. St Peter’s pupils have opportunities to explore existing products and follow a design brief. Children have access to appropriate tools and are encouraged to be creative and innovative.
- *Music* - We use an online scheme of work called Charanga and provide opportunities for our children to appreciate, appraise, compose and perform across different genres. We want our children to enjoy music and feel confident to express themselves.
- *Computing* - Through our computing curriculum we enable pupils to explore and innovate using a range of hardware and software. Our pupils have opportunities to experience and master new skills whilst staying safe online. Computing skills are also used across other subjects. We want our children to be well prepared for the ever changing world we live in.
- *Science* - Through Science we encourage our children to ask questions and find answers. Pupils are taught key investigation skills which allow them to make predictions, test ideas and draw conclusions. Key concepts and vocabulary are integral to our Science curriculum. We want our children to have the skills and knowledge to find out more about their world.
- *History* - Our pupils are supported to develop their understanding of chronology and their place in time. We want our pupils to appreciate the importance of the past in shaping the present, both locally and globally. We encourage our children to explore evidence and ask questions.
- *Geography* - At St Peter’s we are curious about our world and understand our role in protecting it! We want our children to be confident to use their map skills and identify human and physical features of a locality. We appreciate the importance of understanding our local area and enjoy finding out more about other countries.
- *PSHE* – We prioritise personal development and wellbeing at St Peter’s. Our children celebrate cultural differences and diversity. We give children time to reflect as well as explore key issues including growing up and relationships. We want to encourage our children to be positive role models and active members of their communities.
- *Modern Foreign Languages* – We want our children to develop their knowledge and skills in speaking and understanding French. We aim to inspire a love of languages and the confidence to find out more!

What impact will we achieve with our curriculum?

- We will develop life-long learners.
- We will develop children’s knowledge and skills across all subjects.
- The work of our wider curriculum will impact on attainment at the end of each key stage.
- Our children will successfully transition into the next stage of their life as learners.
- Our children will believe that they can make a difference in our school and wider community and continue to uphold our values in their lives.

Vocabulary

At St Peter's we understand not only the fundamental role of vocabulary in allowing our pupils to access the curriculum but also in securing their knowledge and understanding over time. We aim to ensure that all St Peter's pupils are explicitly taught new words, their meanings and their origins.

Vocabulary is an essential tool in building and retaining knowledge over time. Our children are better able to learn and remember new concepts if they can relate them to something they already know. When planning the wider curriculum, it is essential that we consider the specific vocabulary we want pupils to understand and retain. These should be focused on the main concepts we want them to understand and should include the explicit teaching of meanings in context and the etymology of individual and groups of words.

Knowledge Organisers

At St Peter's we use Knowledge Organisers at the start of a block of learning. Knowledge Organisers capture the key information for a topic including vocabulary, dates, quotes, images and core concepts. These not only provide supportive information for children and parents but also support planning as they make us think hard about what we are going to teach and what we want pupils to retain over time. Information provided on the knowledge organiser should represent the minimum that needs to be known, which can be rehearsed and stored in the long term memory in order for pupils to become fluent in the material. It is this long term recall which will allow pupils to make connections with subsequent, related learning.

Quizzes

At St Peter's we believe that ongoing assessment allows us to fine tune teaching and learning; it allows us to gain insight into what our pupils know, understand and can do as a result of what we have taught them. This, in turn, informs us about what needs to be revisited or consolidated and where any gaps exist and well as what should be celebrated. We use 'low threat' quizzes throughout a block of learning.