

The Curriculum

The curriculum covers everything your child does at school. At St Peter's CE Primary School we follow the National Curriculum 2014 to plan for every subject.

Maths and English are taught every day in all classes, RE and Science for at least an hour a week in discrete lessons, PE for 2 hours a week and all other subjects as part of 'Topic'.

It is the job of subject leaders to ensure that all age appropriate skills are taught to each year group through the year for complete coverage of the national curriculum.

Below is a short synopsis of how each subject is taught at St Peter's.

English

St. Peter's follows the National Curriculum for English (2014). In each half term children will experience a range of writing opportunities, including stories, diaries, letters, non-fiction texts and poetry all wrapped up in the theme of a class book. Emphasis is placed on speaking and listening skills to enable children to communicate across a range of contexts and audiences.

Grammar, punctuation and spelling is taught in all year groups at the appropriate level. We use 'Jolly Phonics' and Letters and Sounds' to teach our children phonics. It is taught daily in the Foundation Stage and in Key Stage 1. Once these children are secure they are able to move on to the Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling programme that is taught in from year 2 onwards.

Cursive handwriting is taught from Reception right through to Year 6. These writing skills will be developed year on year with the aim that children will be able to join their letters and produce neat legible handwriting.

We teach reading during specifically timetabled 'Guided Reading Sessions'. All children are given the opportunity to read with an adult, take part in discussions and answer questions about the book they are reading. These sessions help to build confidence and stamina in reading. We also use 'Cracking Comprehension' in

years 1 to 6. This is a whole class teaching resource that teaches the children the skills and strategies they need to successfully explain their understanding of a wide range of texts. It also offers ideas to extend their enjoyment of and engagement with reading.

The focus for home reading at St Peter's is to consolidate reading progress, nurture a love of reading and involve parents in their own child's reading. We provide the opportunity for each child to choose their own reading books within an appropriate reading level so that they can develop a reading habit, have views on the books, authors or genres they enjoy and are able to read for pleasure.

Mrs M Smith - Subject Leader for English

Maths

At St Peter's we believe that Mathematics teaches us how to make sense of the world around us through developing a child's ability to calculate, to reason and to solve problems. It enables children to understand and appreciate relationships and pattern in both number and space in their everyday lives.

We follow the 2014 National Curriculum in Mathematics and aim to provide a curriculum that promotes enjoyment and enthusiasm for learning through practical activity, exploration and discussion. Using a range of mathematical activities we aim to develop logical thinking and reasoning skills through a natural curiosity and investigative approach.

Mathematics is taught daily and lessons include counting and mental maths before focussing on a specific learning objective. Children work in differentiated groups with support where necessary. Children are encouraged to use practical equipment and models and images where appropriate. There are also occasions where children are able to choose their own resources to support their learning or solve practical problems.

Homework in mathematics is set weekly in key stage 2 and Key stage 1 children are given a maths task as part of their half termly homework challenge. It is expected that children are able to complete their homework task independently but they are then encouraged to discuss their learning with an adult.

Children are assessed in class throughout each year against expectations for their year group and will be tested, nationally, in Years Reception, 2 and 6. Parents will be informed of their child's progress in Maths through Parents' meetings, written reports and test results.

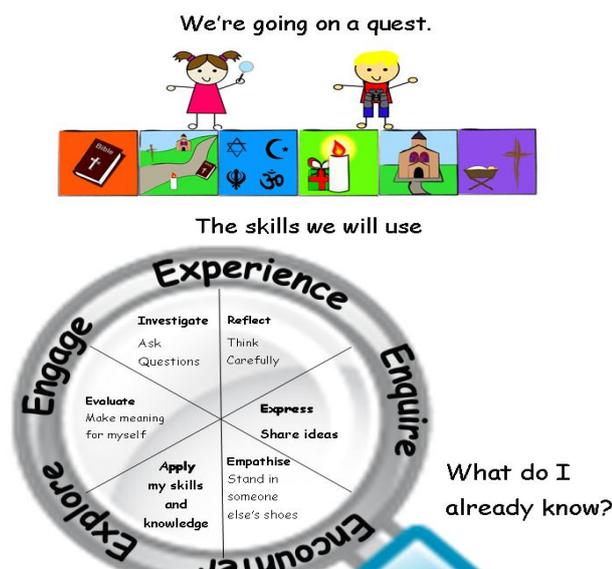
Mandy Holt- Subject Leader for Maths

Religious Education

At St Peter's Church of England School, we follow the syllabus set down by Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education - the content of this syllabus gives pupils a sense of being on a quest of discovery. A key feature of the syllabus is the large number of questions included in each unit. The purpose of these questions is to give pupils opportunity to investigate, reflect, evaluate and make meaning. In doing so they will discover more about themselves, their relationships with others, their relationship with the world around them and their relationship with God.

We believe that the high quality Religious Education provided in our school is the key to enabling every child to flourish. Quality RE has the potential to have the most powerful and lasting effect on the child's heart and mind. Religious Education provides opportunities for spiritual development and personal reflection. It develops children's knowledge and understanding of the nature of religion and belief, it provokes challenging questions about meaning and purpose, truth and values, identity and belonging.

Religious Education prepares children for citizenship in today's diverse society and it enables them to develop sensitivity to and respect for others.



In school, we have either 'whole school' or 'Key Stage' worships each day, which complement the Religious Education Programme and follow the Liturgical year. During the school year, we attend/deliver services (linked to the seasons) at St Peter's Church.

In addition, Year 6 take part in the Eucharist Service at church several times throughout the year. After the service, we sit and chat with the parishioners whilst enjoying juice and biscuits - an event that is enjoyed by all parties.

Each Friday we have Merit Worship during which children are rewarded for both high achievement and good attitudes to learning and each other. During 'Merit Worship' our children are welcome to bring in achievements earned outside of school and to share their news.

Throughout the year, each class presents a Class Worship to which parents/carers are invited to - the children look forward to performing and singing in front of their guests.

Mrs M. Farnworth - Subject Leader for R.E.

Science

At St Peter's we endeavour to stimulate our children's curiosity through scientific enquiries and investigations. We teach a wide range of subjects which cover Biology, Chemistry and Physics throughout each key stage. In Key Stage 1 topics include plants, animals including humans, seasonal changes and everyday materials. Children in Lower Key Stage 2 are taught through a range of topics that include rocks, light, forces, sound and electricity. Upper Key Stage 2 topics include Earth and space, forces and evolution and inheritance. Our principal aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding and we do this through a mixture of whole class teaching and engage children in enquiry based research activities. During science lessons our children are encouraged to ask and answer scientific questions and begin to appreciate the way science will affect their future on a personal, national and global level.

Mrs N Turner - Subject Leader for Science

Physical Education

At St Peter's, we believe that physical education is a vital and unique part of the curriculum. It develops children's knowledge, skills and understanding so that they can perform with increasing competence and confidence in a range of physical activities. Physical Education promotes an understanding in children of their bodies in action. It involves thinking, selecting and applying skills, and promotes positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle thus enabling them to make informed choices about physical activity throughout their lives.

All children participate in fun and active P.E. lessons for at least two hours a week at St. Peter's. Our lessons cover gymnastics, games, dance, athletics and in autumn term year 6 are given the opportunity to go swimming weekly, followed by Year 5 in the Spring and Summer terms. We ask that all parents provide the school P.E. kit for their child and that children are able to remove earrings themselves. This is continued with the physical activity we run in forest school sessions too.

We offer competitive sport in many disciplines including: football, netball, cricket, rounders, swimming, cross-country and athletics. We are looking at

entering more sports each year as we build our competitiveness. All competitive games and events are supervised by our teachers.

Sports day is held annually during the Summer term and we run a whole school sports event at another point of the year dependant sporting events in the wider world e.g. The world cup.

The sports premium funding from the government has been used primarily to provide specialist coaches both during curriculum time and for after school sports. This has seen some excellent specialists in Gymnastics, dance and orienteering.

Stacey-Jo Rawlings- Subject Leader for PE

Art and Design

Through creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences, Art and Design allows a child to express their inner thoughts along with developing vital learning skills. Children are provided with opportunities to become proficient in drawing, painting, 3D work, collage, printing, photography and textiles.

Throughout both key stages children will also study great artists, craft makers and designers. This enables us to appreciate the history and culture of our country and others. Each half term, each class create artwork for corridor displays based upon a theme e.g. Being Me, Creation, Christmas.

Mrs G Clanford- Subject Leader for Art and Design

Design and Technology

Design and Technology requires children to use creativity and imagination to design and make products for real and relevant problems. It is also incorporated into other subjects like mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art, for example electrical circuits in Science.

Evaluation and understanding of past and present design technology allows children to develop critical thinking skills that may impact the wider world. All

these aspects of design and technology education make it "an essential contribution to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of the nation" - Nat Curriculum 2014 The New National curriculum enables children's practical skills in creativity and technology to be developed within a variety of contexts to ensure they are applicable to the technological world around us. It allows children to design, evaluate and critique their own ideas and work, along with the work of others. Mastering cooking skills is also an important part of design technology.

Mrs G Clanford- Subject Leader for D and T

Geography

Geography in Key Stage 1 is taught creatively through topics which change each half term. Key Stage 1 children will look at familiar places around school and study the key human and physical features. Children also research their own locality (Darwen), and then compare this to other localities in the wider world. In Key Stage 2, the children begin to develop their map skills through atlas work and the other necessary geographical skills through a theme based curriculum. In both key stages children are given the opportunity to experience fieldwork where they can collect, record and analyse data. Children then work to present this data in different forms using graphs, diagrams, maps and ICT programmes.

Miss Tanya Hunt- Subject Leader for Geography

History

The purpose of teaching history is to give children a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and of the wider world. We aim to instil in children a knowledge and understanding of the history of Britain from the earliest times to the present day; to appreciate how individual people have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. In Key Stage 1, historical skills are taught through themes. We cover events beyond living memory that are significant locally and nationally such as the Great Fire of London. Children focus on how these events happened and why. In Key Stage 2 children cover history topics which include, the formation of Britain from the Stone Age, covering the Celts, The Romans, The Anglo Saxons and The Vikings, studies of other ancient societies (Greeks, Egyptians and Mayans). We develop the curriculum by linking history to other areas of the curriculum e.g. Art and DT in a themed approach and by regularly visiting places of historical interest. We also focus on significant historical events, people and places in Darwen.

Miss Charleigh Dunn- Subject Leader for History

Music

Music plays a very important role in school life and is taught throughout the school, in accordance with the National Curriculum 2014 guidelines. We access an on-line scheme named Charanga Music School which both children and staff enjoy tremendously! The children are taught age appropriate skills which include singing, music making using pitched and unpitched instruments and performance.



We regard music as being an integral part of daily Worship. The children enter the hall to a different piece of music each week which sets the mood for that week's theme. A variety of songs of praise, both traditional and modern are taught.

In Key Stage 2 children are given the opportunity to learn to play the guitar alongside a specialist teacher. The Reception children perform a musical Nativity held in December and the Year 6 leavers a musical production in the Summer. As

an extra-curricular activity, both Key Stages 1 and 2 have a block of sessions where they are able to join a choir.

Miss J Long - Subject Leader for Music

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Learning a foreign language provides children with an opportunity to access other cultures, deepening their understanding of the world. At St. Peter's KS2 are provided with the opportunity to learn two modern foreign languages: Lower KS2 learn French, and Upper KS2 learn Spanish.

Our principle aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding of a language in a fun, motivating and inclusive way. All pupils in KS2 experience French and Spanish through a variety of teaching styles which are mainly practical in focus and incorporate games, songs, dance, clips and role play. Through such lessons - with clear, achievable objectives - pupils begin to learn key vocabulary, grammar, ask and answer questions and develop their knowledge of another country's culture.

Maria Johnson- Subject Leader for MFL

Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education

All classes at St Peter's are taught PSHE through the Jigsaw programme, a mindful approach to PSHE. Jigsaw is a comprehensive scheme of learning that brings together PSHE Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development.

All year groups from Reception to year 6 are taught through six different puzzles (years 1- 6 are covered over a two year cycle); Being Me in My World, Celebrating differences (including anti-bullying), Dreams and Goals, Healthy Me, Relationships and Changing Me (including sex Education). Although we follow the Jigsaw Programme, we are aware that issues arise through the year as children

develop emotionally and physically. Therefore circle time and other methods are used to allow children to discuss relevant issues and scenarios through the year.

We also promote social and personal education through specifically themed weeks planned into the year, for example anti-bullying week and friendship week.

Megan Evans- Subject Leader for PSHE

Eco - Council

The school has an active Pupil Eco-Council. Each class has an elected representative who meets regularly to plan actions and have a voice in school.

The Eco-Council aims to review and take action around the school and community wherever it may arise. These topics include such things as litter, the school grounds and electricity usage.

Megan Evans-Lead teacher for Eco-Council

School Council

We have an active School Council. Every year each class elects a class representative to join the Council. The children meet regularly to talk about ways to improve our school and share ideas.

In previous years we have raised funds for several charities both local and worldwide. We aim to ensure that every child in school is able to contribute and make St Peter's the best school it can be.

Mrs Smith - Lead Teacher for School Council
