



St Margaret Mary's Curriculum Statement

We try to follow Jesus in everything we do.

Science

Intent

Our Science curriculum has been specifically tailored to meet the needs of our school community. It is designed to be broad and balanced, providing all pupils with the opportunity to be learned and wise in their knowledge and understanding. To be attentive and discerning in order to make sense of the world around them and give purpose as to why we learn about and from Science. This will help them become faith filled and hopeful in their abilities to change and transform our society.

At St Margaret Mary's we recognise the importance of Science in every aspect in daily life, as one of the core subjects taught in our schools, we give teaching and learning of Science the prominence it requires. The teaching of science at St Margaret Mary's encourages children to explore and appreciate the world, which God has created, providing them with a sense curiosity and compassion about the world around them. Science will build on pupils' prior knowledge and sense of awe of the natural world as well as an appreciation of all its phenomena. The children will acquire specific skills and knowledge to help them to think scientifically and gain an understanding of the scientific processes.

Our Science learning at St Margaret Mary's RC Primary School is:

1. Exciting and fun for all children
2. Practical with 'hands on' learning
3. Using scientific vocabulary
4. Encouraging us to ask lots of questions
5. Wondering about things in the world around us
6. Learning about different scientists both past and present

The key strands of the subject that pupils will learn through the school's age-related expectations We aim to build high levels of competence in scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through working scientifically in:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Implementation

From the National Curriculum and Early Years Progress Model, Science is on a taught weekly basis as well as additional thematic weeks throughout the year. We follow a curriculum overview based on a yearly/two-yearly cycle of topics (which includes mixed aged groups). Science is organised through a sequence of lessons, which allows for progression and depth using both knowledge & understanding and scientific enquiry skills. Working scientifically is embedded within each science topic and is not taught as a separate strand.

Throughout science teaching at St Margaret Mary's a questioning ethos is developed. This encourages children to become eloquent and truthful in exploring all possible answers while using scientific vocabulary, questioning their learning and the world around them.

Resources

Science is enriched through thematic weeks, celebrating world events, visiting and accessing libraries, museums and places of significant scientific interest both in and around our school, city and its surrounding areas. Teachers have access to a central store of both primary and secondary resources, which support both knowledge and skill based developments. In addition to this, we use on-line resources and investigative equipment to enrich the learning for the children.

Assessments

Assessments are carried out using the TAPS assessment resources. Children are assessed on both conceptual knowledge and areas of working scientifically. This assessment supports teacher judgements and next steps in learning.

Impact

Teaching and learning of science inspires children to be curious about the world and promotes children's enjoyment and enthusiasm for scientific learning and discovery. Children are able to recognise how science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Children are able to develop a wide variety of skills linked to both scientific knowledge and understanding and scientific enquiry.