

St Michael's Catholic Primary School



Science Policy



St. Michael's Catholic Primary School Our Mission Statement

'Finding Christ in each other'

'Catholic Education is above all a question of helping to form Christ in the lives of others.'

Pope John Paul II

The School aims to promote Catholic values based on the teachings of Christ and to bring all members of the school community – staff, children, parents and governors – closer to God through the daily practice of those values in all areas of school activity.

St Michael's Catholic Primary School
Curriculum Vision Statement

Our mission statement 'Finding Christ in Each other' is at the heart of our school. We believe in developing the whole child and praising qualities and talents in every child.

We see our curriculum as a vehicle for future learning and success. We want our children to see that they can contribute to the world and understand that they are citizens of the world and contribute to local, national and global issues.



- Catholic values – which helps pupils grow spiritually and give them values for life outside of school
- Historic Environment – which helps pupils to understand and appreciate their locality which facilitates their relationship to the wider world
- Resilience – which helps pupils grow as learners
- Independence – which helps pupils to grow as independent learners, not dependent on adults to learn
- Subject knowledge and skills – which help pupils develop their academic skills and give them knowledge for life
- Tolerance – respecting and valuing the beliefs, values, choices and opinions of others

Intent

At St Michael's Catholic School, we recognise the importance of Science in every aspect of daily life. As one of the core subjects taught in Primary Schools, we give the teaching and learning of Science the prominence it requires.

The Scientific area of learning is concerned with increasing pupils' knowledge and understanding of our world, and with developing skills associated with Science as a process of enquiry. It will develop the natural curiosity of the child, encourage respect for living organisms and the physical environment and provide opportunities for critical evaluation of evidence. We endeavour to ensure that the Science curriculum we provide will give children the confidence and motivation to continue to further develop their skills into the next stage of their education and life experiences.

In conjunction with the aims of the National Curriculum, our Science teaching offers opportunities for children to:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics;
- Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of Science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them;
- Be equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of Science, today and for the future.
- Develop the essential scientific enquiry skills to deepen their scientific knowledge.
- Ask questions to further their understanding.
- Use a range of methods to communicate their scientific information and present it in a systematic, scientific manner, including I.C.T., diagrams, graphs and charts.
- Build resilience when working scientifically – tests don't always work first time!
- Instil in our children a love of learning and an understanding of the importance and impact of science upon their journey of life.

Implementation

Science is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children achieve depth in their learning and build on their knowledge and skills as they move through the school. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. By the end of year 6, children will have an in –depth understanding across the science strands of biology, physics and chemistry and will have built up an independent work ethos, applying their working scientifically skills to a range of science-based research, enquiry and investigations.

At St. Michael's our EYFS curriculum is based on the goals outlined in the Early Years Statutory Framework and has been created with the support of the Development Matters and Birth to 5 documents. Alongside our curriculum documents we use our knowledge of the individual child to provide a range of learning opportunities through interactions, provision and enhancements to the environment.

Children's knowledge will be checked throughout the teaching of the subject revisiting the previous lesson and the previous learning in this area. Children's progress will be assessed using end of topic quiz's which are used to inform the RAG rated system at the end of each topic. Children will be given feedback including ways to improve their work or ways to challenge them further.

Impact

- The impact of our curriculum will be evident in the progress of our children and their ability to know more, remember more and do more.
- Teachers continually give feedback to children to further their understanding and provide challenge, and children act upon this feedback.
- Children's independence and confidence in applying skills is always encouraged within science. This successful approach results in a fun, engaging, high-quality science education, that provides children with the foundations for understanding the world.
- Children have the understanding that science has changed our lives and that it is vital to the world's future prosperity.
- Children learn the possibilities for careers in science as a result of our community links and connection with national agencies such as the STEM association.
- Pupil voice is used to further develop the Science curriculum, through questioning of pupil's views and attitudes to Science to support the children's enjoyment of science and to motivate learners.
- Teachers continued in class observation and assessment, combined with end of topic assessment help to collate data that is then analysed and shared amongst staff to ensure all children are aided where necessary to meet the curriculum standards

Equal Opportunities

At St Michael's School we believe that every individual within the school has the opportunity to achieve their full potential and has the same chance and equal access to all areas of the curriculum.

Disability Equality Impact Assessment

This policy has been written with reference to and in consideration of the school's Disability Equality Scheme. Assessment will include consideration of issues identified by the involvement of disabled children, staff and parents and any information the school holds on disabled children, staff and parents.

Subject Leader – Miss James