



St Mary's C of E Primary Academy – Whole School Science Policy

Intent

At St Mary's, our Science curriculum is built upon our whole school vision and curriculum intent: reflecting our community's identity, culture and heritage, promoting inclusivity, and empowering all children to tell their own stories. Through a high-quality, knowledge-rich Science curriculum, we aim to prepare children for their future by equipping them with the skills, curiosity and critical thinking needed to understand the world around them.

We believe Science is a vehicle for promoting awe and wonder, building resilience and collaboration, and celebrating diversity. Rooted in Christian values, our Science teaching encourages children to care for God's creation, act responsibly, and engage with learning with hope in their aspirations, love for discovery, and peace in their actions.

Our curriculum ensures:

- Children learn scientific knowledge and concepts through a well-sequenced and progressive curriculum.
- Learners of all backgrounds and abilities have full access to a rich and inclusive Science education.
- Vocabulary is explicitly taught to support all learners to speak and think scientifically, reducing barriers to learning.
- Children understand how science connects with real life, including local environmental issues and future careers.
- Working scientifically skills are embedded and progressive, allowing children to investigate, observe, ask questions, and draw conclusions confidently.

Implementation

At St Mary's, we implement our Science curriculum through a consistent and structured approach that promotes clarity, progression, and accessibility for all learners:

Structure and Delivery

- Science is taught twice weekly in Years 1–6.
 - A **short “familiarise” session** explicitly teaches key vocabulary and revisits prior knowledge. These sessions are designed to close gaps, strengthen schema, and ensure all children can access learning.
 - A **core one-hour Science lesson** follows the adapted *Plan Bee* scheme. These lessons are aligned to the National Curriculum and our school's knowledge-led approach.

- In the EYFS, Science is delivered through *Understanding the World* using *Development Matters*, enriched with oral hygiene teaching and topic-based learning.
- All Science lessons are underpinned by Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction and *WalkThrus* pedagogy, with a balance of practical, investigative and knowledge-based learning.
- Each lesson identifies the *field of science* (biology, chemistry or physics) so children develop disciplinary awareness.
- Staff use our bespoke progression map to ensure appropriate pitch and avoid repetition. The map builds on prior knowledge, promotes deep learning, and ensures children *know more and can do more* over time.
- The school grounds and local context are used wherever possible to bring Science learning to life and connect it to the children's heritage and lived experiences.
- High-quality planning, slides and resources are provided to reduce workload and ensure consistency.

Inclusion and Support

- Lessons are adapted to meet the needs of all learners, including those with SEND and EAL, by focusing on vocabulary and pre-teaching where needed.
- Scientific vocabulary is introduced gradually and taught explicitly through the *familiarise* sessions and classroom displays.
- Children are supported to speak in full sentences and use scientific language in discussions and written work.

Impact

The impact of our Science curriculum is seen in how children *speak, think and behave* like scientists, demonstrating curiosity, confidence and care for the world around them.

Assessment

- Formative assessment takes place during lessons through questioning, discussion, and practical tasks.
- Summative assessment includes:
 - End-of-topic quizzes and tasks recorded in books.
 - Completion of assessment grids after each lesson.
 - Data logged termly on *Insight* to monitor individual and group progress.
- These outcomes help identify misconceptions and inform teaching.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Science is regularly monitored through:

Update: April 2026

Review: April 2027

- Learning walks
- Pupil Book Studies
- Pupil and staff voice
- Staff feedback