Curriculum Intent and Implementation - Mathematics

School Curriculum Intent:

At St Peter's, every child will live, love and learn in an environment founded upon moral and Christian values; they will leave the school with the knowledge and skills to be lifelong learners and rounded citizens and with the ability to make a positive contribution to their future society.

All that we do is founded upon a clear set of shared values, from which our motto is derived: Together We Believe, Aspire And Achieve.

Subject Curriculum Intent:

We view mathematics as a skill for life. A skill which equips pupils with a set of tools to understand and change the world we live in. Mathematics is a creative and highly inter-connected discipline that has been developed over centuries, providing the solution to some of history's most intriguing problems. It is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for most forms of employment. A high-quality mathematics education provides a foundation for understanding the world, the ability to reason mathematically and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject.

Threads of the subject:

At St Peter's we strive to enable all pupils to:

- become fluent in the basics of mathematics (+ - x and ÷), including through varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that pupils have conceptual understanding and can recall and apply their knowledge rapidly and accurately to problems
- reason mathematically by following a line of enquiry, develop an argument, justify their thinking and explain their reasons using mathematical language
- solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.

What a child experiences in this subject going through St Peter's:

Maths is taught daily at St Peter's. As well as the daily lessons, each child takes part in an early morning maths activity which provides daily practise of arithmetic skills. Regardless of what the children strive to become in their future lives, Maths and particularly arithmetic will always play a large part; whether it be working out the household budget, planning and saving for future purchases, measuring for furniture and carpets or calculating discounts in stores.

Children are taught as a whole class, in small guided groups, independently, or in pairs. Wherever possible, lessons are made practical.

Misconceptions are picked up on in the lesson, during small group work or when marking books. These children are then focussed upon the following day through further guided group work or extra practise and consolidation of the concept.

Children are challenged in lessons through the activities that they are given. All children are given tasks that stretch them rather than one task fits all. Problems can be open-ended, and the children asked to apply the concepts that they have just been taught. Explaining their own thinking and ideas is encouraged rather than just doing what the teacher asks.

As a school, we aim to provide fun and engaging lessons and build up confidence in those less able children so that they will become resilient mathematicians. During the year, all children take part in a whole school STEM day where they participate in activities linked to science, technology, engineering and maths. Activities are practical and often demonstrate the link between what is taught in the classroom with the wider world.