

Science Rationale

At St. Peter's Academy, we recognise the importance of science in every aspect of life, today and in the future. We aim to nurture children's understanding of the world around them by helping them to think scientifically. We enable them to gain an understanding of scientific process, and also of the uses and implications of science. We want pupils to understand how science has changed our lives over the years and how it is vital to the world's future prosperity. We want to show children that becoming a scientist is a real and achievable goal, that they can aspire to make a difference in the world of science. We want to empower the minds of our young scientists to strive to become doctors, engineers, scientists, researchers. In fact, we want to teach that science is the root of a multitude of exciting and important jobs that will shape our future.

The staff at St. Peter's want all children to have a great experience of learning. We understand that for children to develop a real love for science, there needs to be a 'hands-on', 'Take-Care' approach, led by practical activities where they can demonstrate going 'Beyond Expectations'. We also want children to be 'minds-on', encouraging them to come up with big ideas, wondering how they can influence the world around them. We hope to provide learning and activities which are relevant to the lives of our children.

We aim to culture a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. Children should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what they see occurring, to predict how things will behave, and to analyse causes.

"The scientist is not the person who gives the right answers, they are the ones who ask the right questions." Claude Levi-Strauss

We want our pupils to be inquisitive, challenging, knowledgeable and able to apply process skills. Science at St Peter's is about developing children's ideas and ways of working – sharing ideas, working as a team, learning through questioning, trying things out, making mistakes, correcting, and understanding that there isn't always a correct answer. We want our pupils to use these approaches to answer relevant scientific questions, as they develop a broad scientific vocabulary.

Our Science curriculum incorporates scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. We aim to develop an understanding of nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiry and we aim to equip our children with scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future. We want our children to leave St. Peter's with the skills, knowledge and understanding of how to be an effective scientist.