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**St Simon’s Science Statement of Intent**

**Intent***Why do we teach this? Why do we teach it the way we do?*

At St Simon’s Catholic Primary School, we value science because we believe it is important to equip our pupils with the skills and desire to question, test and learn from and about the world around them. Science opens up pupils to the environment around them, inspiring curiosity and offering opportunities to learn from and with one another.

**Implementation***What do we teach? What does this look like?*

Our curriculum is shaped by our school vision, to STRIVE to be the best we can be for the Glory of God.

The aims of teaching science at St Simon’s Catholic Primary School are to:

* Promote enjoyment in science
* Promote enquiry
* Inspire an inquisitive nature
* Encourage pupils to make links with what they have learnt in new fields- using knowledge to inform future learning and inquiry
* Instil a sense of wonder about the natural world
* Promote collaborative work

In line with the National Curriculum, we ensure that children:

* 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
* are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.
* Prepared for life in an increasingly scientific and technological world today and in the future.
* acquire a growing understanding of the nature, processes and methods of scientific ideas.
* develop and extend their scientific concept of their world.
* build on their own natural curiosity and developing a scientific approach to problems.
* encourage open-mindedness, self-assessment, perseverance and developing the skills of 3 investigation – including: observing, measuring, predicting, hypothesising, experimenting, communicating, interpreting, explaining and evaluating.
* develop the use of scientific language, recording and techniques.
* develop the use of computing in investigating and recording.
* make links between science and other subjects.

Our teaching and learning:

At St Simon’s Catholic Primary School, science plays an important part in school life. Every class has regular science lessons in which the skills needed to develop scientific understanding are taught: observing, measuring, predicting, hypothesising, experimenting, communicating, interpreting, explaining and evaluating. Lessons are enriched with opportunities to link such skills to other curriculum areas and are often linked closely to topic lessons.

Science is promoted and celebrated at St. Simon’s through class displays and celebrating pupil’s achievements through golden awards. At whole school level through ‘Science Week’ activities and lessons and ‘Mad Science’ afterschool club.

Our curriculum is geared to achieving our goal of ensuring that our pupils are ‘ready for life’ because the school firstly teaches and embeds the required knowledge and skills at each year group level, and then provides each child with the opportunity to apply what they have been taught in the form of investigate problem-solving scenarios. Wherever possible these are related to the world outside of the classroom.

Our curriculum is built upon instilling ‘awe and wonder’ in the world around us. Pupils in EYFS follow the EYFS curriculum and learn through discovery of the world around them. Across KS1-2 our curriculum is built around NC14 objectives, offering pupils a range of topics to engage and inspire creative thinking and inquiry. At St. Simon’s the science curriculum is balanced to offer pupils opportunities to gain knowledge and also develop enquiry and testing skills. Pupils work on a range of enquiries to develop skills of planning, hypothesis, experimenting, recording and evaluating their work.

**Impact***What will this look like?*

Science at St. Simon’s results in a fun, engaging, high-quality science education, that provides children with the foundations for understanding the world. Our engagement with the local environment ensures that children learn through varied and first hand experiences of the world around them- utilising our outdoor space, local trips and links with MMU. Children learn the possibilities for careers in science as a result of our community links and connection with MMU, ‘Mad Science’. 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. This will be evident through:

* Scientific understanding underpinned by high levels of aural perception, internalisation and knowledge of science.
* An excellent awareness and appreciation of different science traditions and genres.
* The ability to give precise written and verbal explanations using scientific terminology appropriately.
* A passion for and a commitment to a diverse range of science activities.

The integral nature of the science curriculum at St Simon’s creates rich opportunities for children to access fundamental skills including:

* A respect for **spiritual**, cultural and historic diversity.
* Being **trusted** when using scientific equipment and working in groups
* Increased **resilience** through accepting errors, anomalies and ‘failed’ tests- asking ‘how can we improve?’ and ‘what could be done better/differently next time?’
* An **inquisitive** nature about the world around them
* Being **valued** both individually and as part of a team.
* A sense of **exceptional** achievement.