



Information for Parents/Carers regarding Curriculum Planning within the Activate (R – Year 3) and Advance (Year 4 – 6) Phases

At St Martins School our curriculum is designed to prepare our pupils for the future. It is exciting, forward thinking and is designed for the needs of our pupils.

Each term/half term we base our learning around a subject area, for the Autumn Term this will be **Science**. Our aim is to make learning enjoyable and have links which create meaning.

Our curriculum is divided into six key areas:

- Core Curriculum (English, Mathematics, Science)
- Knowledge and understanding of the world including British Values
- Physical health and well-being including outdoor learning
- Community curriculum
- Life skills, safety and careers
- Creative Arts Curriculum

Core Values

Our core values run throughout our curriculum:

aspiration, positivity, motivation, resilience, communication, understanding, acceptance, safety, self-belief, self-discipline, respect.

These values form part of our assembly themes and are displayed throughout the school.

Each topic will begin with a '**Stunning Starter**'. This might be a visitor, a trip, an experience or activity. During the middle of the topic there will be a '**Magnificent Middle**', the aim of this is to keep the interest in the topic. The topic will end with a '**Fantastic Finish**' such as a trip, performance or assembly.

Curriculum Days

Each half term we will have a whole school curriculum day. This will give us chance to focus on one area of the curriculum. This half term the focus will be on History.

Our first Curriculum Day will be held on Friday 18 October. Please see the table below for further information.

Year	History focus
R	People who help us
1	The Gunpowder Plot
2	The Moon Landing
3	The Romans
4	Stone Age and Iron Age – Celts
5	Ancient Greece
6	The Mayans

Planning in Early Years

Our planning techniques and recording are based on 'In the moment planning'.

We work in this way because:

'Babies and young children are experiencing and learning in the here and now, not storing up their questions until tomorrow or next week. It is in that moment of curiosity, puzzlement, effort or interest – the 'teachable moment' – that the skilful adult makes a difference. By using this cycle on a moment-by-moment basis, the adult will always be alert to individual children (observation), always thinking about what it tells us about the child's thinking (assessment), and always ready to respond by using appropriate strategies at the right moment to support children's well-being and learning (planning for the next moment).'

From National Standards document: Learning, Playing and Interacting p22-23

We have focus children

NOT focus activities

However, there may be times when activities are planned. During the day the children may have a phonics or maths activity done as a whole group. This is to ensure that children are introduced to concepts that they may not readily encounter in their play.