



## The National Curriculum

### 2014

Since the revised National Curriculum was introduced in September 2014 our Year 1, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 were taught accordingly with immediate effect. Our Year 2 and Year 6 began to follow the revised curriculum from September 2015 to allow for continuity in preparing for their statutory end-of-key- stage assessments in Summer 2015.

### Assessment reform

As part of reforms to the National Curriculum, the system of 'levels' used to report children's attainment and progress in English, Maths and Science were removed from September 2014 and not replaced. The National Curriculum tests and teacher assessment at the end of key stages 1 and 2 were reported in levels for the last time in Summer 2015.

By removing levels teachers were given greater flexibility in the way that they plan and assess pupils' learning. A child is now measured against national age related expectations in English and Maths (Science also at Year 2 and 6) and will be judged to be either:

**Working towards expected standards (WTS)**

**Working at expected standards (EXS)**

**Working at greater depth (GDS)**

The first new key stage 1 and key stage 2 tests in English and Mathematics based on the new National Curriculum were sat by pupils for the first time in the Summer of 2016.

For further information on Key Stage 1 and 2 tests please click on the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2017-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents>

### The National Curriculum 2017

For the previous 3 years here at St Mark's we have been using the Lancashire Professional Development Curriculum Support Materials (LPDS) to support teaching and learning in the

*foundation curriculum* subjects of History, Geography, Art, Music and Design Technology. Those one and a half form entry classes would work on a two year rolling programme in line with the LPDS long term planning overviews. However after 3 years of LPDS we felt that it was time to review our foundation subject curriculum so as to ensure it provided **all** children with rich and deep opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding beyond English and Maths. In order to further achieve this it was decided our new foundation curriculum would:

- Promote enquiry based learning
- Include higher order questioning
- Use Growth Mindset to create more independent learners
- Give more consideration to pupil's own context beyond the start lesson and end lesson
- Embed challenge throughout

Pupil voice activities will take place in **January 2018** in order to measure how successful we have been so far in our goal of ensuring the desired changes to our foundation subject curriculum.

For further information on the National Curriculum in Year 5 and Year 5/6 click below:

Year 5

<http://www.stmarksce.co.uk/index2.php?p=5.10>

Year 5/6

<http://www.stmarksce.co.uk/index2.php?p=5.11>

### Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development & British Values

Our curriculum strives to develop children's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural understanding (SMSC). SMSC is central to the development and growth of pupils as people as well as the development of society as a whole. We also actively promote the British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual liberty and Mutual respect and tolerance. An overview of our SMSC and BV curriculum can be found below.

[http://www.stmarksce.co.uk/pdf/SMSC%20British%20Values\\_03-10-16.pdf](http://www.stmarksce.co.uk/pdf/SMSC%20British%20Values_03-10-16.pdf)