

# Curriculum Vision



Updated: September 2025



Just as St Peter himself was entrusted to be the rock on which Jesus founded his church, St Peter's CofE Primary School develop firm foundations within our pupils for life based on Jesus' teachings.

St Peter's children learn through a **concept based curriculum** which supports the acquisition of knowledge and skills in a spiralling curriculum. The concepts that we have used to design our curriculum around, come from two areas. We cover **vision concepts**, that are unique to our context as a rural church school, and **subject concepts** that we believe organise the substantive and disciplinary knowledge of the curriculum for the children. This curriculum design ensures all children can make progress and work towards achieving the end of key stage outcomes set out by the National Curriculum.

In order to ensure we have cross-curricular links and the opportunities for purposeful, quality outcomes St Peter's operates a '**topic approach**' to enhance curriculum coverage. However, some subject content doesn't lend itself to being taught in a '**topic approach**' and is taught discretely in its own right (e.g. much of maths and many areas of Science, RSHE or RE). History is a subject that lends itself to a **topic approach** and it is one of the three over-arching topics that a class will study in an academic year. One term is broadly **HISTORY** topic based, a second term is **GEOGRAPHY** based and the third term is based on **BOOKS** with key texts as the focus.

## Vision Concepts:

Our vision concepts spiral throughout our curriculum so St Peter's children have a range of opportunities to apply what they have learnt in meaningful contexts and live out our school values, develop spiritually and explore their own beliefs. Our children apply their knowledge and skills that are set out in our small-steps progression documents to become 'agents of change' and explore 'courageous advocacy' through our vision concepts.

### Community

The concept that we have a responsibility as a Christian community to learn about, understand and love others in our school, village, nation and the world

### Christian Values

The concept that if we live by our distinctively Christian values and can demonstrate the qualities of our learning friends we will be equipped as lifelong learners

### Ambition

The concept that we should use our knowledge and skills to improve the lives of ourselves and others

## Subject Concepts

The outcomes of the national curriculum are achieved through our concept-based curriculum. Our subject concepts are a helpful way to organise a curriculum as they provide learners with a disciplined way of thinking about curriculum content. Subject concepts come up repeatedly (over the years) in our curriculum, supporting learners to assimilate new knowledge into growing schema.

## Small Steps Knowledge Progression

Each subject concept has progression indicators called small-steps. The small-steps outline what intended knowledge pupils should attain during each milestone. We refer to the substantive knowledge as 'I know' knowledge and disciplinary knowledge as 'I can' knowledge. The small step documents, that describe this progression, are organised into 4 milestones. These are:

- ❖ Early Years Foundation Stage
- ❖ Milestone 1 – Year 1 and 2
- ❖ Milestone 2 – Year 3 and 4
- ❖ Milestone 3 – Year 5 and 6

## Assessment

We assess the 'I know' knowledge and 'I can' knowledge each term. Within a particular milestone, a teacher assessment is made for each learner's level of knowledge: emerging, advancing and deepening. These levels of knowledge represent 3 cognitive domains.

### Emerging

Low-level cognitive demand. Involves following instructions.

### Advancing

Higher level of cognitive demand. Involves mental processing beyond recall. Requires some degree of decision making.

### Deepening

Cognitive demands are complex and abstract. Involves problems with multiple steps or more than one possible answer. Requires justification of answers.