STEM Curriculum

Curriculum Intent (why do we do it)

Our aim for STEM teaching is for students to have hands on opportunities to use science, technology, engineering and mathematics in practical, creative and fun ways while instilling curiosity and stimulating interest. Although STEM is taught discretely it permeates into other areas of the curriculum and learning opportunities.

These four subjects support one another, so that an understanding of each benefits the understanding of the others. Combining these subjects can help students understand how they can be applied in real life. It enables students to use their prior experience when solving problems.

It gives students opportunities to work collaboratively, solve problems, develop and test ideas, connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products. The STEM curriculum gives students an opportunity to find a solution in their own unique way. It also gives students the opportunity to fail and know it is okay and that they can try again.

All of these subjects are increasingly important in a changing and technologically driven world. Many careers involve one of these subjects and the STEM curriculum helps to prepare students for adult life and success in further education and employment.

Curriculum Implementation (how do we do it)

STEM is taught in Pathways 1,2 and 4.

STEM is a taught as a discrete strand in Pathway 1 and 4 and they have one STEM session a week

STEM is delivered under the Wider World/ Sensory Experiences strand in Pathway 2. They have a STEM focus for at least one term a year.

STEM is differentiated appropriately within each class.

See curriculum plans below

Curriculum
Components
(how do we break
the learning down)

See Whole School Implementation Planner.

Curriculum Impact

Progress is not explicitly linked to STEM but as a vehicle to enhance other areas of learning across the curriculum.

(How do we measure how successful the curriculum is and how students' progress within it?)

Qualitative data in relation to individual students progress is recorded yearly on reports that are shared with parents and used to input into annual review meetings and EHCP's.

Some student have a termly target linked to STEM as part of their personalised learning.

STEM can expand breadth of knowledge and experience while consolidating learning in a different format.

STEM teaching can foster careers and special interests.

Whole School Implementation Planner

Pathway One and Four

KS3

STEM				
Autumn	Spring	Summer		
Year 1				
The Human body (Links to PSHE)	Structures and bridges	Water experiments		
Year 2				
3D solids and nets (Links to Numeracy for Life)	Living things and their habitats (Links to Citizenship)	Plants and seeds (Links to Citizenship)		
Year 3				
Materials and their properties/uses	Electricity	States of matter (Solids, liquids and gases) Floating and sinking		

KS4

STEM				
Autumn	Spring	Summer		
Year 1				
Cardboard creations	Plants and trees (Links to Citizenship)	Building a car that moves		
Year 2				
Winter creations	Experiments	Earth and Space The planets and the solar system. Density of space materials		

Pathway Two – Spiral curriculum

The Wider World/ Sensory Experiences				
Autumn	Spring	Summer		
Year 1				
Science The Human Body History Black History	Geography/MFL/RE India: Its language, culture, food and festivals	Science Healthy Lifestyles Science Experiments with colour		
Year 2				
RE World Religions Christianity Judaism Islam Hinduism Buddhism Sikhism History Black History	Geography/MFL Africa AQA Accreditation (alternate years with Citizenship) Support/Most 41632 AFRICAN CULTURE: EXPERIENCING A COUNTRY'S WIDER CULTURE 116126 CULTURAL EXPERIENCES Challenge 117371 INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN HERITAGE	Science Healthy Lifestyles Science Experiments with water		
Year 3				
History Great Fire of London World War I and II History Black History	Geography My local area United Kingdom	Science Healthy Lifestyles Science Experiments with sound, light and movement		