



Primary Curriculum for Maths

From September 2014 a new curriculum has been introduced for Key Stages One and Two, as well as what teachers are expected to teach how it is taught has also changed.

Previously, children who were working below age related expectations or those working above were taught from the previous or next year's curriculum. This has now changed to a majority of the children all being taught at the same pace with those children needing challenge being exposed to a range of problems to become 'maths masters' and those children needing more support will have the chance to practise their learning.

Below is a quote taken from page 3 of the National Curriculum.

"The expectation is that the majority of pupils will move through the programmes of study at broadly the same pace. However, decisions about when to progress should always be based on the security of pupils' understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Pupils who grasp concepts rapidly should be challenged through being offered rich and sophisticated problems before any acceleration through new content. Those who are not sufficiently fluent with earlier material should consolidate their understanding, including through additional practice, before moving on."

The aims of the national curriculum are to ensure that all pupils:

§ become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, including through varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that pupils develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately.

§ **reason mathematically** by following a line of enquiry, conjecturing relationships and generalisations, and developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language

§ can **solve problems** by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.

I hope that this quick overview will help you to understand how your child will learn, be supported and extended in maths during their time at St. James'