



Sir Martin Frobisher Academy Intent Statement



At Sir Martin Frobisher, we aim to empower kind, creative, lifelong learners. Many of the children at Sir Martin Frobisher Academy come from disadvantaged backgrounds where they have not had access to a rich range of experiences. Therefore, we aim to offer our children varied opportunities and an exposure to a broad and balanced curriculum that develops a love for learning whilst instilling our values of Respect, Equality, Aspiration, Confidence and Honesty. To promote creativity, kindness and a love for learning in our children, we implement our curriculum in the following ways:

Reading

- We ensure reading is at the heart of our curriculum to develop a love for reading within our children that gives them the opportunity to develop their understanding of the world, enables them to confidently access the wider curriculum and develop independent learning skills. With reading at the heart of our curriculum, we aim to make our children confident and aspirational learners for life.
- We use the *Read Write Inc.* scheme daily to teach phonics and place high value on ensuring that any child who finds reading challenging receives 1:1 or small group support each day.
- We use “Just Imagine - Take One Book” when children are able to decode and comprehend simple texts to expose children to high quality texts and a wide variety of literature and maximise their cultural capital.
- We discuss one of our 6 Reading Superheroes each day to ensure they understand the key reading skills that will help them become confident learners in life.

Writing

- We use *Talk for Writing* as our approach to writing to ensure our children become confident writers.
- We enable children to orally imitate key language they need for a particular topic before they read and analyse it. Children are supported to write in a particular style, in the first instance, through fun activities that help them rehearse the language they need - followed by shared writing that teaches them to craft their own compositions across a wide range of purposes and genres.

Maths

- We teach a mastery approach to Maths which follows a Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract sequence to support and deepen children’s understanding of mathematical concepts.
- We use Power Maths as a resource to support the progression of their teaching and ensure children are exposed to real-life problems.
- We build learning in small steps across a unit of study to ensure a secure foundation of knowledge and skills before moving on to the next “step” of learning.
- We encourage discussion as a whole class or in small groups to address misconceptions and promote the value of confidence.

For more information about Reading, Writing & Maths, please refer to our subject policies.

- We teach History, D&T, Computing and Geography as part of Thematic Units which are sequenced to build on children’s prior knowledge and skills, deepening their understanding and making connections to various topics during their time at Sir Martin Frobisher Academy.
- Our History curriculum is taught in reverse chronological order, which we believe gives children the best opportunities to understand the concept of chronology, where important events and eras fit into that chronology, and just how long ago these events were. Therefore, beginning with the most recent history allows children to gain a deeper understanding and build on their prior knowledge to establish clear ideas about change over time.
- Our Geography curriculum is taught in such a way where we “zoom out” across the world. Children begin their learning journey locally, as we find that many children at SMFA have never been away from their hometown. We then develop an awareness of the local area and zoom out, first focusing on London, then the UK and finally moving on to various countries, each year moving further afield in the world whilst developing knowledge and skills to give our children an opportunity to be aspirational and ensure they learn about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth’s key physical and human processes.
- Our D&T curriculum aims to provide children with a programme that is relevant in our rapidly changing world. We want to encourage our children to become problem solvers who can work creatively on a shared project. We believe that high-quality D&T lessons will inspire children to think independently, innovatively and develop creative, procedural and technical understanding. D&T at SMFA provides children with opportunities to research, develop and represent their ideas, explore and investigate, make a product and evaluate their work. Children will be exposed to a

range of media including textiles, food and woodwork, in which children will develop their skills, vocabulary and resilience.

- As part of our Computing curriculum, we ensure our children develop skills in e-safety, coding & digital literacy. We use Scratch to provide a fun, engaging, and high-quality computing education which equips children to use computational thinking and creativity to understand the changing world around them. Designed in a way that builds each year on the knowledge and skills practised in the previous year, the curriculum will teach children the key knowledge about how computers and computer systems work, how they are designed and how they are programmed. Children learn the importance of safety online and practise their digital literacy skills at various points throughout the year.
- Within the Early Years Foundation Stage at SMFA all 7 areas of the curriculum are accessed through indoor and outdoor learning opportunities. Children are provided with experiences which allow them to develop their knowledge and skills with the children's interests being taken into consideration at all stages.
- We have a focused outcome celebration across the school for each term to further develop our children's confidence and celebrate their successes. In Autumn Term, when children have been focusing on History, we produce a whole school "Living Museum" where parents are invited to explore the historical learning that has occurred across the school. For Spring Term, when D&T and Computing have been taught, we create a "Great Exhibition" to showcase our creations. When Geography is taught in the Summer Term, we open our doors to "Around the World with SMFA" where parents and carers are invited to "fly around the world" and learn about different countries, cultures and geographical features.
- In Science, our intention is for all children to develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. They will develop an understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of scientific enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them. They will be equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.
- Children are provided with memorable experiences such as school trips and external visitors to empower life-long learning and inspire creativity.
- Our curriculum ensures that great emphasis is placed on developing the whole child through PSHE lessons and assemblies, which are supported by the Jigsaw curriculum. Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe, form positive relationships, develop compassion, empathise with others whose experience may differ to their own, and fully appreciate the importance of British Values including tolerance and respect. We teach the importance of democracy, equality, and the development of debating skills, which is then reinforced through engagement with our School Council.
- Every opportunity to celebrate diversity and embrace personal experience is taken. This may be through learning about the achievements of people from a wide variety of backgrounds or celebrating key moments in history or cultural festivals.
- In Physical Education, we aim to give children the tools and understanding required to make a positive impact on their own physical health and well-being. We want all children to experience a wide variety of sports and physical skills, including the Daily Mile, which is designed to promote life-long fitness and healthy life choices. The PE curriculum teaches children to cope with both success and failure in competitive, individual and team-based physical activities, enabling them to become life-long learners.
- As many of our children do not have access to safe, engaging outdoor facilities in their community, we participate weekly in Outdoor Adventures to develop resilience and demonstrate their creativity. We also promote Science where possible within our Outdoor Adventures to ensure a hands-on approach which engages our children.
- PE and Outdoor Adventures challenge and promote self-esteem through the development of physical confidence and problem solving.
- To promote physical health and wellbeing, a range of extra-curricular clubs give learners an opportunity to access a variety of sports clubs after school hours.
- Children develop their creativity through weekly Art and Music lessons. A love of art is nurtured within all. Our imaginative and diverse art curriculum enables children to see art's connection with the wider world. Throughout their time at Sir Martin Frobisher Academy children have opportunities to explore and experiment with a wide variety of materials and techniques providing a solid foundation for their own creative expression. Our goal is to expose our children to a range of influential local and global artists and craft makers from past and present and become more historically, culturally and socially aware.
- We use Charanga as a basis for our Music curriculum to ensure our children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres.
- The teaching of vocabulary is a key aspect of lessons. Subject Leads have compiled progression of vocabulary lists which demonstrate how children will build on prior knowledge to develop their vocabulary.
- The Thematic and Subject Overviews show clearly how key skills and knowledge are revisited and these links between year groups made explicit.