St Augustine's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The 2014 National Curriculum for Maths aims to ensure that all children:

- Become fluent in the fundamentals of Mathematics
- Are able to reason mathematically
- Can solve problems by applying their Mathematics

At St. Augustine's, these skills are at the heart of Maths lessons and developed consistently over time, ensuring progression. We aim to ensure that children are able to recognise the importance of Maths in real life contexts and are able to use their mathematical skills and knowledge confidently. We aspire to help our children to enjoy Mathematics and to experience success in the subject, with the ability to reason mathematically. We aim to equip children with the transferrable skills to implement their Mathematical knowledge to other subjects. We believe that all children can and should succeed in Maths, with challenge a central focus. We are committed to developing children's curiosity about the subject, as well as an appreciation of the importance and power of Mathematics.

Implementation:

To ensure consistency and progression, we use a style of Mathematics teaching that promotes mastery: White Rose. Within this, teachers use the CPA (concrete, pictorial, abstract) approach, ensuring children have a connected, meaningful understanding of Mathematical concepts, underpinned by basic skills. This approach allows most children at St. Augustine's to progress through the Mathematics curriculum at broadly the same pace as others. The school has recently joined the Maths Hub programme to ensure that staff at all levels understand the pedagogy of this approach.

As mathematical fluency is a key skill that unlocks all areas of Mathematics, we work hard to ensure children have acquired the necessary fluency skills to access lessons, as well as calculate efficiently and with increasing accuracy. This way, children can then move onto more challenging aspects of Maths confidently and with pride. Because of this, carefully planned daily short-burst activities support the children's ability to retain key mathematical facts:

- SOLO tasks every morning
- 'Number Time' across the school daily
- TTRS (Timetable Rockstars)

Children are often taught by starting each lesson with a problem that is open ended, requiring discussion, reasoning and can be answered in multiple ways, sparking creativity, inquisitive thinking and respect for differing opinions and approaches. In KS1, there is a higher focus on introducing pictorial and object (concrete manipulatives) for children to use and feel confident whilst making mathematical connections. In KS2, there is a slight shift towards more abstract thinking, to engage deeper thinking and promote further discussion, aligning to real-world problem-solving skills, however children are encouraged to use manipulatives to support their learning. Teachers use carefully planned, meaningful questioning to promote deeper discussion and challenge in a safe learning environment. Once children have been led through differing strategies and approaches by the teacher, they can independently test their fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills using these different methods and make progress.

Mathematical topics are taught in blocks, to enable the achievement of 'mastery' over time. Topics covered in blocks are revisited as required to further strengthen skills and are assessed throughout the year.

Impact:

Our Maths curriculum aims to develop quick recall of facts and procedures which can be applied to different contexts. To understand relationships and make connections in mathematics through a Mastery approach. The expectation is that pupil will move through the curriculum at broadly the same pace to achieve the expected standard. However, pupils who grasp concepts rapidly should be challenged through a 'Dive Deeper' approach 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. We aim to develop a love of mathematics and that all children have the necessary basic skills, with clear progression. By the end of KS2, we aim for all children to be fluent in Mathematics with a conceptual understanding and the ability to recall facts. They will have the skills to solve problems by applying their mathematical knowledge to a range of contexts. Children will be able to reason by justifying and explaining their thinking using specific, mathematical language.