

Curriculum topic overview

St Buryan Academy

# St Buryan Academy Curriculum Design

*A Thematic, Consistent & Inspiring Journey Through Learning*

## Our Curriculum Vision

At St Buryan Academy, we believe in providing a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum that inspires every child to achieve their full potential. Our curriculum design supports high standards while fostering curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.  
  
Rooted in our ethos — Believe, Achieve, Aspire — our curriculum is designed to:  
- Promote consistent learning experiences across year groups  
- Foster progression in knowledge and skills  
- Celebrate diversity and inspire global awareness  
- Encourage learners to question, explore and innovate  
- Nurture individual talents and character development

## Curriculum Structure

Our curriculum is organised around whole-school thematic learning, with each term offering a new theme. All KS2 year groups follow the same theme, ensuring cohesion while allowing for age-appropriate progression.  
  
We use a rolling plan to cover key knowledge areas over time, ensuring full coverage of the National Curriculum and statutory expectations, including mixed-age classes.

Each theme is a vehicle for rich cross-curricular links, while maintaining subject integrity and high expectations. Whilst ensuring cross-curriculum links, there is acknowledgement that Year 3/4 combine with Year 5/6 in the afternoons and there may be challenges around this.

## Why This Model Works for Us

-Consistency – Whole-school themes support collaborative planning and a shared language of learning.  
-Progression – Concepts are revisited at increasing depth as pupils grow.  
-Engagement – Themes are exciting, meaningful and relevant to children’s lives.  
-Breadth – Every child experiences a wide range of subjects and topics, from ancient history to modern science.  
-Ethos-Led – Our curriculum helps every pupil Believe in themselves, Achieve their potential, and Aspire to make a difference.

## Linking to Our Ethos: Believe, Achieve, Aspire

- Believe – In their abilities, their value, and the power of learning  
- Achieve – Through knowledge, resilience, and high expectations  
- Aspire – To dream big, explore widely, and contribute meaningfully to the world

## Conclusion

This thematic, ethos-driven model supports St Buryan Academy’s mission to nurture confident, capable and compassionate learners who believe in themselves, achieve excellence, and aspire to shape a better future. Its aim is to provide our children with a rich, broad and balanced learning experience which best prepares them for their next steps and future lives.

Cycle A

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Autumn 1** | **Autumn 2** | **Spring** | **Summer** |
| **EYFS**  **Access curriculum overview** [**here**](../EYFS%20-%20Nursery_Rec/EYFS%20Termly%20summary.pdf) | All about me | Autumn changes | Healthy me/lifecycles/growth and new life | Our planet/the seaside |
| **Y1/2** | Under the Sea |  | Famous Figures | Great Fire of London |
| **Y3/4** | Frozen Kingdom  Science Focus: Evolution and Inheritance | Science Focus: Animals Including Humans | Stone Age to Iron Age  (Local History)  Science Focus: Teeth/Digestive System/Food Chains | Romans  Science Focus:  Sound |
| **Y5/6** | Frozen Kingdom  Science Focus: Evolution and Inheritance | Science Focus: Animals Including Humans | Stone Age to Iron Age  (Local History)  Science Focus: Teeth/Digestive System/Food Chains | Romans  Science Focus:  Sound |

Although EYFS will work with Year 1/2, their curriculum runs alongside and topics should be integrated where possible.

Cycle B

Although EYFS will work with Year 1/2, their curriculum runs alongside and topics should be integrated where possible.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Autumn 1** | **Autumn 2** | **Spring** | **Summer** |
| **EYFS**  **Access curriculum overview** [**here**](../EYFS%20-%20Nursery_Rec/EYFS%20Termly%20summary.pdf) | All about me | Autumn changes | Healthy me/lifecycles/growth and new life | Our planet/the seaside |
| **Y1/2** | Toys through the Ages |  | Penzance Past and Present | Our United Kingdom |
| **Y3/4** | Extreme Earth  Science Focus: Skeletons |  | Ancient Greeks  Science Focus: Animals Including Humans  Circulatory System | Anglo Saxons and Vikings  Science Focus:  Light |
| **Y5/6** | Extreme Earth  Science Focus: Skeletons |  | Ancient Greeks  Science Focus: Animals Including Humans  Circulatory System | Anglo Saxons and Vikings  Science Focus:  Light |

Cycle C

Although EYFS will work with Year 1/2, their curriculum runs alongside and topics should be integrated where possible.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Autumn 1** | **Autumn 2** | **Spring** | **Summer** |
| **EYFS**  **Access curriculum overview** [**here**](../EYFS%20-%20Nursery_Rec/EYFS%20Termly%20summary.pdf) | All about me | Autumn changes | Healthy me/lifecycles/growth and new life | Our planet/the seaside |
| **Y1/2** | Under the Sea |  | Famous Figures | Great Fire of London |
| **Y3/4** | Stargazers  Science Focus: Earth and Space |  | Battle of Britain  (WWII)  Science Focus:  Forces and Magnets | Egyptians v Maya  Science Focus: Electricity |
| **Y5/6** | Stargazers  Science Focus: Earth and Space |  | Battle of Britain  (WWII)  Science Focus:  Forces and Magnets | Egyptians v Maya  Science Focus: Electricity |

Cycle D

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Autumn 1** | **Autumn 2** | **Spring** | **Summer** |
| **EYFS**  **Access curriculum overview** [**here**](../EYFS%20-%20Nursery_Rec/EYFS%20Termly%20summary.pdf) | All about me | Autumn changes | Healthy me/lifecycles/growth and new life | Our planet/the seaside |
| **Y1/2** | Toys through the Ages |  | Penzance Past and Present | Our United Kingdom |
| **Y3/4** | Mining  (Local History Study)  Science Focus: Rocks |  | Where in the world: Rivers and Rainforests  Science Focus: Living things and their habitats | Sustainability  Science Focus:  Plants |
| **Y5/6** | Mining  (Local History Study)  Science Focus: Rocks |  | Where in the world: Rivers and Rainforests  Science Focus: Living things and their habitats | Sustainability  Science Focus:  Plants |

Although EYFS will work with Year 1/2, their curriculum runs alongside and topics should be integrated where possible.