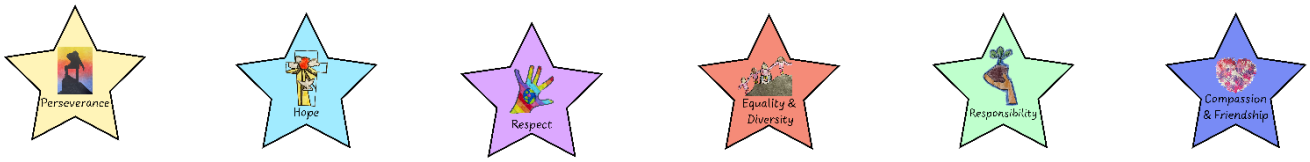
Our Curriculum Intent

At South Malling Church of England Primary and Nursery School, we believe that education has the power to transform lives, and that all children can 'reach for the stars'.

Our vision is to inspire every pupil to:

- ✓ Be CuRious and Creative
- ✓ Communicate considerately and constructively
- ✓ Think as global citizens and act as local citizens
- ✓ Become active, lifelong learners
- ✓ 'Work at it with all your heart' (Colossians 3:23)

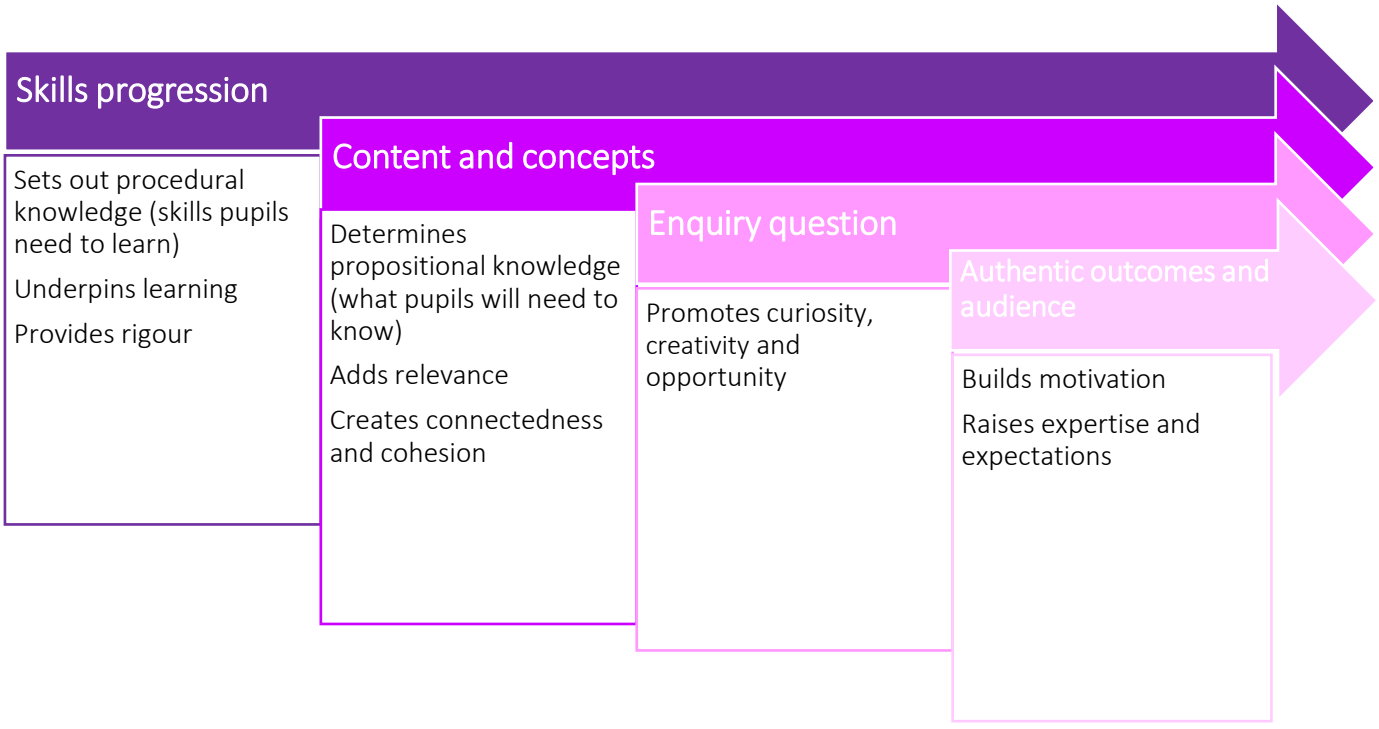
Our exciting and ambitious curriculum has been developed around six core life skills which equip pupils for the future, the South Malling Stars Values that we reach for:



Perseverance | **Hope** | **Respect** | **Equality and Diversity** | **Responsibility** | **Compassion and Friendship**

Each term one of these values is chosen as a golden thread which connects the learning and makes it meaningful. An enquiry question for each learning journey inspires pupils to be curious, creative and think critically about the world around them.

Our curriculum is underpinned by rigorous teaching of the foundations of learning to make children experts in Reading, Writing and Maths.



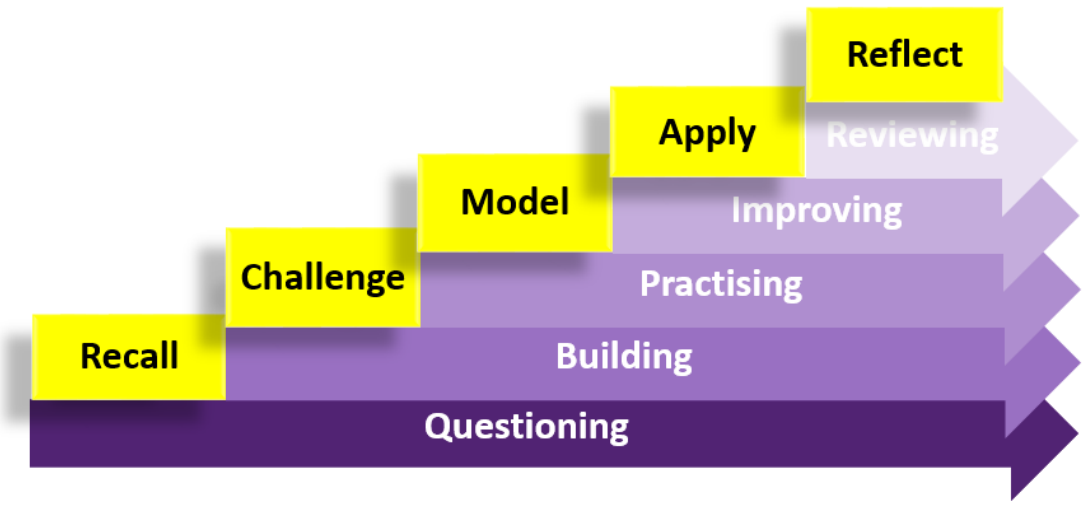
We believe that the ability to read is fundamental to success. The love of reading for pleasure is modelled and developed through the sharing of high-quality texts; the rigorous teaching of reading skills ensures children become confident and fluent readers, enabling them to access the next stage of their education and beyond.

Oracy is central to our curriculum offer: we want all of our children to develop the confidence and skills to communicate effectively. As such, spoken communication skills are taught both explicitly and in a range of cross-curricular contexts and through child-led Oracy assemblies.

Our curriculum also reflects the importance of digital literacy and communication, as we aim to prepare our children to have a healthy and safe life in the computer-age.

Opportunities for pupils to develop their role as active citizens who can shape the future both locally and globally are planned across the year. Our innovative curriculum is enhanced by off site visits, interactions with professionals from a range of sectors, workshops and outdoor learning opportunities. Building each pupil's cultural capital and investment in where and how they live equips them for an exciting future in the 21st Century.

Our Curriculum Implementation

Encompassing the formal requirements of the National Curriculum and the Early Years Framework as its starting point, the South Malling curriculum is structured into termly Learning Journeys. These are are carefully planned so that children acquire new knowledge, develop new skills and reach, or exceed, their potential academically, physically and artistically. Starting from the Early Years where learning through play forms the foundations of curriculum delivery, play and gamification across the year groups ensures that our pupils are excited and engaged in their learning.

Our mastery learning approach aims to ensure that all pupils have mastered key concepts and skills before moving on to the next topic. Maths, Reading and Writing skills are taught daily by Quality First teaching. Each lesson reviews understanding, builds on prior learning, models new concepts and gives pupils a chance to explore their understanding by putting it into practice. Regular opportunities for assessing pupils' progress and attainment are planned across each term. Where appropriate, adults intervene to support or challenge so that pupils achieve the necessary milestones. Lessons follow a similar structure, the South Malling Steps to Learning: