

ASSESSMENT IN SCIENCE



At St John's we understand that learning is at least in part a change in long-term memory, which is the storage of information over an extended period of time. To facilitate the learning of knowledge and skills, a variety of methods are used in lessons, such as:

- Presenting material in small steps.
- Retrieval practice.
- Spacing (spreading out learning over different sessions).
- Daily and weekly reviews.

In order to assess children's learning in Science, the following process is used.

<p>Start of new topic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class discussion to evaluate what the class already know. Questions from the end-of-unit assessment/quiz may be discussed as a starting point. • A front page (unit overview) is stuck into books and can be discussed with the class. • Knowledge organisers are given out and discussed with the class.
<p>During the learning process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each lesson will have a Big Question or Learning Objective. • Each lesson will start with a recap/retrieval of previous learning, key knowledge or concepts. • 'Developing Experts', 'Explorify' or 'Bright Ideas' may be used to promote initial thinking and discussion. • Children are encouraged to use scientific enquiry skills as well as knowledge. • Retrieval Practice techniques are used, such as: quick, low-stakes quizzes. • Different types of questioning. • Discussion. • Written work. <p>About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through a unit of work, the children will carry out a Focused Assessment Task which allows the teacher to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe closely how children work. • Carry out focused questioning in small groups. • Assess knowledge and skills.
<p>End of topic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-unit Knowledge Quiz (Developing Experts). Once completed, teachers may go through the quiz with the whole class to unpick any misconceptions. Scores are recorded on a Knowledge Tracker. This data can be used to inform report-writing, as well as being available for the next teacher. • Subject Knowledge and Skills are RAG rated at the end of the year. • Each class highlights when they have covered a unit on a document to track coverage within each year. This highlights if there are any gaps.

We use **Developing Experts** for our Science planning and assessment.