

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

A Guide to Year 2
2025 - 2026

Miss. T. Greenhalgh
(Year 2 Form Teacher)

Miss. A. Harrison
(Year 2 Form Teacher, Head of PSHE for Pre-prep)

Introduction

St Paul's Cathedral School is a Christian, co-educational community where the values of love, justice, tolerance, respect, honesty, service and trust are encouraged and practised to promote positive relationships throughout the school community and where the safety and welfare of each child is of the utmost importance.

The school aims to instil a love of learning through a broad curriculum. It aims to give each pupil the opportunity to develop intellectually, socially, personally, physically, culturally and spiritually. All pupils are encouraged to work to the best of their ability and to achieve standards of excellence in all of their endeavours.

Through the corporate life of the school, and through good pastoral care, the school encourages the independence of the individual as well as mutual responsibility. It aims to make its pupils aware of the wider community and encourages a close working relationship with parents and guardians.

Welcome to Year 2

Year 2 is an exciting year for the children. Your child's early experiences of school have a significant impact on their future success. In the Pre-prep, we aim to provide a solid foundation and foster a love of learning, allowing each child to fulfil their full potential.

As they start their final year in the Pre-prep department, the children are encouraged to be more focused, independent and to take on more responsibility for their learning and belongings. They are also given more roles and responsibility within the department as a whole, guiding and helping the younger children. Their learning continues to become more formal and they are encouraged to further develop their confidence and focus.

This booklet aims to provide an overview of your child's time in Year 2, outlining the curriculum and routines of the school day. We hope you will find it useful.

You will find below a chart outlining the main subjects and topics covered each term. Alongside thorough schemes for English and Maths, we follow the International Primary Curriculum, which ensures the children's learning is creative, thematic and topic based.

The children have weekly specialist lessons in French, Music, Drama, Art, Dance, ICT, PE and Swimming. They also visit the school library once a week.

We look forward to an exciting and busy year ahead!

Miss T Greenhalgh and Miss A Harrison

Pre-prep Welcome

Pre-prep at SPCS is a joyful and purposeful place to launch your child's education journey.

Here, your child will set down foundations for happy and successful lifelong learning.

Pastoral Care in Pre-prep

At SPCS, pastoral care is at the very heart of all we do. The Good Schools Guide describes SPCS as 'pastorally superb'. Your child will be known and nurtured right through the Pre-prep years.

Relationships are at the heart of Pre-prep life. Children learn best when they are secure in their relationships and have the confidence to tackle challenge.

Sustainable wellbeing is built on learning to understand and respect yourself, others and the world around you.

Our approach places great emphasis on the skills needed for self-management, developing and nurturing friendships and working together in teams. Learning how to communicate with others is a key focus in our Pre-prep.

We make our expectations of behaviour clear and reinforce them through celebration of good behaviour at assemblies and the weekly Star of the Week ceremony.

Confidence is developed through growing competence. Regular opportunities to perform (at assemblies, concerts and events such as Sports Day) build self-belief.

Pre-prep class teachers oversee your child's pastoral care. Our pastoral team also includes the School Chaplain, a Counsellor, a Mental Health Lead and ELSAs (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants).

Learning in Pre-prep

We make learning irresistible! From age 4, when your child joins Reception, to age 7 at the end of Year 2, expect to see an amazing journey in every aspect of learning and character development. Our Pre-prep approach promotes the development of problem-solving skills, independence and personal enthusiasms in each classroom. We go beyond acquiring vital skills to develop a love of reading, writing, number and a passionate curiosity about the wider world.

Year 2

We place increased focus on individual learning skills and the habits and qualities needed for successful transition to Prep School. As our oldest pupils in this section of the school, Year 2 take on responsibilities and have greater independence. In this final year in Pre-prep you can expect to see a continued transition in every aspect of learning and character development, in preparation for the Prep School the following September.

Wider Learning

As well as their dedicated class teachers, Pre-prep work each week with subject specialists in PE, ICT, Music, Dance, Drama and French, benefiting from extraordinary expertise from the very start of their education. Our Heads of English, Maths and Science support class teachers to ensure smooth transition to prep school study.

Learning beyond the classroom is a really important part of Pre-prep life, here on site and in the local area. Your child will love regular outdoor learning in the Cathedral Gardens and visits to museums, galleries and concerts during the Pre-prep years will provide lifelong memories. Year 2 visit the swimming pool each week.

In the Pre-prep we advise against any external tutoring except in the most exceptional cases and in consultation with the school. SPCS provides an excellent curriculum, including everything your child needs for academic and personal development. SPCS has a great track record of providing children for their senior schools. This conversation begins with you in Year 4.

Meanwhile, bear in mind that the best ways that you can stimulate your child's academic curiosity are often through the most enjoyable family activities. Trips to a museum or gallery, a family volunteering project, board games, walks together, shopping trips and above all regular conversation at the family meal table: all these give your child the kind of enrichment no tutor can provide. The good news is that the rich experience of family life is the best support you can possibly provide - and is likely to be great fun into the bargain.

We rely on close communication with you and encourage you to share any joys, successes, worries or concerns so that we have the best possible picture of your child's needs and progress.

Your child's form teacher acts as your first contact for communication but do remember they are not in front of a screen during the day but working with your child: call the School Office if you have any urgent messages, questions or concerns.

Madeleine Smyth

Head of Pre-prep

The School Day

Year 2 will be welcomed into school via St Augustine's Tower between 8.30 and 8.50am by a member of Pre-prep staff. Children will be welcomed and registered as they arrive. Children should come straight up to the Pre-prep corridor and hang their belongings onto their pegs, before going into their classroom for their morning activities. Parents are asked to drop off their children without entering the school building.

Children are dismissed from St Augustine's Tower at 3.35pm. Children are handed over to their parent or carer by their teacher.

Year 2 children may attend an after-school activity club, led by a Pre-prep teacher. At 3.30pm they will be given a snack and will play under supervision until their club begins at 4pm. Clubs end at 5pm and children should be collected promptly from St Augustine's Tower. Children may attend wrap around care after this until 6pm. There is also an option of wrap around care from 4 – 6pm.

Organisational skills are strongly encouraged and supported at school; please do encourage your child to play an active role in getting ready for school the next day.

Resource required	Days to be brought in
PE Kit	Worn all day every Monday and Friday (2TG and 2AH)
Reading Book	Please bring to school daily (will be changed Mondays and Thursdays)
Library books	Every Wednesday (2AH) or every Tuesday (2TG)
Musical instrument	Check timetable on parent portal

Prep

Parents are asked to read with their child for 20 minutes each evening. Ten spellings will be set each week to be practised at home and there will be an informal test at school each Thursday. Times tables will also be set on Google Classroom. Automatic recall of times table facts provides a solid foundation for all maths learning. One Maths task and one English task will be set week to consolidate skills learnt at school.

Below is a summary of weekly prep and reading expectations.

Year 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Prep (15 minutes)	English (prep book)		Maths (prep book)	Spellings (Prep book)	Rest and Relaxation!
Reading (20 minutes)					

Sometimes there will be opportunities for project work, poetry learning, book reviews, family surveys and even suggested outings. On these occasions, normal 'prep' requirements will be put to the side.

We ask parents to support us with prep by:

- Making it clear that they value prep and support the school in explaining how it can help their child's learning.
- Praising and encouraging their children to take pride in their prep and by taking an interest in their work.
- Providing a peaceful place, free from distractions, where their children can concentrate on their work.

- Ensuring that their child spends an appropriate amount of time on prep and notifying their form teacher as soon as possible if there are any concerns.

Show and Tell

Show and Tell is a highlight of our weekly timetable. Once a term, children are asked to prepare a short presentation about the current Humanities and Science topic. The children gain a lot from these sessions; not only does it develop their public speaking skills, but also the ability to listen and ask interesting questions.

Parents' Consultation / Reports:

Year 2 Parents' Meetings are held early in the Autumn Term, and in the Spring Term.

Year 2 parents receive the following report feedback during the year:

Autumn Term:	Curriculum Evening, Parents' Meetings
Spring Term:	Book Look, Parents' Meetings.
Summer Term:	Humanities and Science Showcase, Written Report.

In addition to scheduled communication, there may be times when parents, or staff, may feel a face-to-face discussion or phone call would be beneficial to discuss academic or pastoral issues. It is suggested that parents, in the first instance, email the staff concerned and then arrange a meeting at a mutually agreeable time. 08:10 – 08:30 is often a good time for most staff.

Year 2 - Curriculum Overview

Please note that the information given is only a general guide to the material covered in the year. The pace and order of delivery of the curriculum is constantly monitored by the teaching staff in every subject and will be adjusted to match the requirements of the pupils.

Subject	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
English: Reading	School reading scheme books sent home and changed twice weekly. Some children will start to choose “free readers”. One school library book sent home each week.	School reading scheme books sent home and changed twice weekly. More children will start to choose “free readers”. One school library book sent home each week.	The majority of the class to be choosing “free readers”, although some will continue to consolidate their reading skills using the reading scheme. One school library book sent home each week.
English: Writing topics	Stories in Familiar Settings – Beegu (Alexis Deacon) Humorous poems – Dr Seuss Traditional stories – The Snowman (Raymond Briggs)	Imaginary stories – Anthony Browne (author study) Instructional texts - Recipe writing Songs and repetitive poems - The Works	Quest stories – Oliver Jeffers Stories of triumph and hope - The Tin Forest Recount – writing about Sports Day
English: Spellings	Class weekly spellings	Class weekly spellings	Class weekly spellings
Maths: Number	Odd and Even; Ordering; Rounding; Place value; Word problems; Fractions; Money.	Partitioning; More or Less; Addition; Subtraction; Division; Multiplication; Word problems.	Inverse operations; Introducing column addition and subtraction; Multiplication and division; fractions.
Maths: Measurement	Length; Mass; Reading scales; Time.	Weight; Reading scales; Time; Estimating; Comparing measures; Calculating time intervals.	Using different measures; Capacity and volume; Ordering measures of time.
Maths: Shape and Geometry	Symmetry; Properties of shapes; Directions; Compass points	Symmetry; Properties of shapes; Directions; Compass points; Sorting shapes	Nets of shapes; mirror lines;
Maths: Statistics	Data Handling: pictographs and Bar graphs	Data Handling: pictographs and bar graphs; Interpreting data	Further work on interpreting data

Humanities and Science	<u>Live & Let Live</u> <i>Science</i> Children will learn about: Conditions for life, Sorting living things, features of plants and animals, the 5 senses, care of animals. <u>People of the Past</u> <i>History</i> Children will learn: About the different decisions that rulers had to make in the past; How to use a living graph to explore how a person from history might be feeling; About the life of a famous explorer using maps and role play; How to compare the lives of two different explorers; About the achievements of important scientists and inventors; About what life was like at different times in the past.	<u>Freeze It!</u> <i>Science:</i> Children will learn about: All about ice and water; at what temperature water freezes; how long ice takes to melt; what happens when we freeze other liquids; how we can turn ice into a healthy food; which materials will keep ice cool. <u>The Stories People Tell</u> <i>History</i> Children will learn: About myths and legends from different times in the past; How to create our own legend about someone we know; About the gods that people used to worship in the past. <i>Geography</i> Children will learn: About stories from different countries and cultures; How we can remember an important journey; How we can make a map of our own imaginary land.	<u>Treasure Island</u> <i>Geography:</i> Children will learn: About the islands that you find around the world; the names of places that pirates travelled; the islands that make up the UK and other locations; the different features you see there; the weather and climate in different places that pirates visited; how pirates navigated around the world; how to plan a pirate island; how to give directions using a map. <u>Greenfingers</u> <i>Science:</i> Children will learn about: Sorting leaves; herbs; plants and growing; the lifecycle of a plant; designing a new watering can.
Art	<u>Colour wheel project</u> Pupils will learn about colour in a range of media that will include printing. They will learn about different kinds of paint. They will build on their use of brushes. Looking at artists that use paint in different ways. <u>Portrait project</u> Pupils will learn how to draw a simple portrait. They will look at a range of artists	<u>Egg box portrait</u> Pupils will create a rabbit, bear or dog mini character. They will use different materials to collage an outfit for the character to wear. <u>Painting island project</u> Children will: Pupils learn about using paint in different ways. They will learn about coloured mixing and different kinds of brush strokes. They will create a mixed media island with a	<u>Dragon Project</u> Pupils learn how to do draw more complex subject matter. Pupils will learn how to draw different styles of dragons and then go on to create their own working in ink and coloured pencils. They will be taught how to add lots of detail and to work in layers.

	portraits. They go onto Create a 'crazy portrait' looking at Picasso and Klee	3D mountain in the middle.	
ICT	E-Safety: Understand the dangers of leaving digital footprints online. Identify the signs of cyberbullying. Be able to evaluate the usefulness of websites and to always stick to websites that are right for their age range. Photo Editing: The pupils will use photo editing software to edit photos. They will learn how to crop, rotate, insert 3D models and adjust brightness and contrast levels.	Digital Storybook: Programming and debugging a simple computer program using Scratch Junior. Developing a story using sprites and backgrounds. Making use of motion, appearance and repeat blocks. Digital Creators: The pupils will use Microsoft Publisher to create an invitation poster. The skills they will learn will include inserting images, text boxes, inserting symbols and changing the font family & size of text.	Coding: The pupils will learn that an algorithm is a set of instructions. They will identify a range of algorithms that occur in their daily lives. The pupils will code an onscreen robot called 'Lightbot' and 'Kodable'. The pupils will use sequences, conditions and loops. Typing Wizards: The pupils will practise touch typing. They will practise typing letters in rows, typing keys on the home row and typing capital letters, apostrophes, slashes & full stops.
French	Revision of greetings, numbers and colours. Shapes Christmas	Fruits Vegetables Easter and Mother's Day	Instruments Story: le petit chaperon rouge
Music	Singing: Harvest Festival Songs Class Recorders (note reading and rhythm skills with specialist) Singing: Christmas Carols	Class Recorders Y2 concert preparation Notation: crotchets, quavers, minims, semibreves and rests	Instruments of the orchestra (guest appearances from Music Staff and older pupils) <i>Peter and the Wolf</i> – Prokofiev Singing: Pirate Songs (IPC)
PSHE	Unit 1: Me and My Relationships Bullying and teasing Our school rules about bullying Being a good friend	Unit 3: Keeping Safe Safe and unsafe secrets Appropriate touch Medicine safety Unit 4: Rights and Respect Cooperation	Unit 5: Being my Best Growth Mindset Looking after my body Hygiene and health Exercise and sleep Unit 6: Growing and Changing

	Feelings/self-regulation Unit 2: Valuing Difference Being kind and helping others Celebrating difference People who help us Listening skills	Self-regulation Online safety Looking after money – saving and spending	Life cycles Dealing with loss Being supportive Growing and changing Privacy
PE	Run Jump Throw Develop coordination skills Agility Spatial Awareness Demonstrate decision making to choose appropriate skills Sprint starts Send Return Tracking ball Choice of throw Point tracking with partner Identify Dominant/Non-Dominant hand and foot Boundaries of games. In or out?	Hit Catch Run Striking skills Shot placement Catching/fielding Fielding positioning and teamwork Team decision making Attack Defend Shoot Kick/dribble/pass/control Implement catching throwing passing skills in game conditions Control power to pass when throwing and kicking Movement into space and positioning	Athletics/Sports Day Practice Ready/Start position Sprint Practice Relay procedure and teamwork Jump for distance/Across the River Target/Bean Bag Throw Javelin throw
TPR Theology, Philosophy and Religion	Sikhism What do Sikhs believe? Nativity Told from the perspective of an animal.	Hinduism Trimurti Gods and Goddesses Lent	St Paul's Cathedral Mindfulness Philosophy Light and Darkness Forgiveness – what is forgiveness and why is it important?
Drama	Character creation: exploring and creating characters and looking at feelings, jobs, familiar activities and relationships but with a deeper understanding of how these influence characters' actions and dialogue.	Sharing imaginative ideas: within small groups, with deeper exploration of how to share and agree on ideas while working together. Strengthen stagecraft, body control, and voice projection, with a stronger emphasis on stage	Pirates: Introduce students to the story of Treasure Island, encouraging them to create and develop their own pirate characters. -Explore voice, movement, and physicality to portray pirate personalities, learning to bring imagination and

	Warm-up activities for voice and body to refine skills developed in Year One, encouraging greater expression and control. Create characters with an emphasis on voice, body, and movement, enhancing awareness of how to present these characters on stage. Nativity Preparation: Year Two students take on more advanced roles in an imaginative retelling of the Christmas story. -Build on their character work by developing vocal projection, facial expressions, and movement in performance. -Incorporate songs, dance, and choreography with a focus on ensemble work and confidence on stage.	awareness and audience engagement. Dramatic Journeys Explore class-related books and topics through Drama games and techniques, delving deeper into the characters and stories. Focus on the students' ability to express different viewpoints and perspectives, with more complex drama challenges and performance tasks. This term has a series of mini projects that may relate to class topics and skill building activities	spontaneity into character creation.
--	--	---	--

.Contacts

Miss Greenhalgh (2TG) tgreenhalgh@spcs.london.sch.uk

Miss Harrison (2AH) aharrison@spcs.london.sch.uk

Miss Smyth msmyth@spcs.london.sch.uk

Timetable for 2AH

	830	920	940	1000	1020	1040	1100	1110	1120	1130	1230	1240	1310	1320	1330	1340	1350	1420	1440	1500	1510	1520	1540
Monday School Assembly	Registration and Assembly	Phonics			Morning Break	Handwriting	TPR			Lunchtime	Maths					PE		Afternoon Break	French			Reading / Story Time	Home Time
Tuesday Cathedral Assembly		Phonics				English			Dance		Maths		HaS		HaS	PSHE			Home Time				
Wednesday Form time		English				HaS	Library				HaS	Drama			HaS	Art			Home Time				
Thursday Pre-prep Assembly		Spellings		English		Music		English			ICT			HaS		Phonics	Maths			Home Time			
Friday		Swimming				Swimming		Show and Tell			Music		Maths		Golden Time				Story Time	Star of the Week		Form time	Home Time

Timetable for 2TG

	830	920	940	1000	1020	1040	1100	1120	1130	1230	1240	1310	1320	1340	1350	1420	1440	1500	1510	1520	1535
Monday School Assembly	Registration, Assembly and Handwriting	Phonics			Morning Break	English			Lunchtime	Maths			IPC			Afternoon Break	P.E			Hand writing	Home Time
Tuesday Cathedral Assembly		Phonics				English				Art			Maths				Music	Library		Home Time	
Wednesday Feedback and Grammar		Dance		IPC		IPC	French			Hand-writing	ICT			Maths	Maths		Drama		Home Time		
Thursday IPC Assembly		TPR		IPC		IPC		Music		PHSE		Spellings		Phonics			English			Home Time	
Friday Crypt Assembly		Swimming				Swimming		Show and Tell		Maths			Golden Time				Story		Star of the Week		Home Time

Prep

Monday: English prep & Reading book change
 Wednesday: Maths prep
 Thursday: Spellings & Reading book change



TRUST

RESPECT

H O N E S T Y

L O V E

T O L E R A N C E

F A I R N E S S

EXCELLENCE

C O M M U N I T Y