

Science Curriculum Policy

Intent

At West End Primary School, our children are **SCIENTISTS!** Our aim is to give every child a broad and balanced Science curriculum which enables them to confidently explore and discover what is around them, so that they have a deeper understanding of the world we live in. We want our children to love science. Through looking at the work of scientists present and past, we encourage all children to see that they too can grow up wanting to be astronauts, forensic scientists, toxicologists or microbiologists. Science involves exciting, practical hands on experiences that encourage curiosity and questioning and develop scientific enquiry skills. Our aim is that these stimulating and challenging experiences help every child secure and extend their scientific knowledge and vocabulary, as well as promoting a love and thirst for learning. Our curriculum provides the opportunity for the critical evaluation of evidence and the rational explanation of scientific phenomenon. Children will have the opportunity to use their mathematical knowledge in the collection, presentation and analysis of data.

Science Curriculum Aims.

The aims stated in the NC for Science in primary school fall into 6 areas and these form the core of our curriculum. The national curriculum for Science aims to ensure that all pupils:

develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics

develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them

are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future

Implementation.

The curriculum is mapped from Year1 to Year 6 to ensure progression of scientific skills, vocabulary and knowledge builds on the foundation stage of learning through knowledge and understanding of the world. At West End, every child is a scientist and our skill based science curriculum which is taught in blocks ensures depth and progression and allows children to develop scientific and enquiry skills. The acquisition of scientific knowledge and the development of scientific enquiry skills are of equal importance and children will be taught specific skills. Through collaborative and individual work they will be given the opportunity to use their prior learning to predict or hypothesise and develop the skills needed to test these. Science will be taught in enquiry based lessons.

Subject development and monitoring.

Each year a specific action plan will identify an area of subject development which will be implemented by the subject leader. This focus will be monitored through school by work sampling, lesson observations, learning walks and staff and student surveys. The subject leader will seek, deliver and evaluate CPD to support staff and subject development. Senior leaders and governors will evaluate the impact of action planning on teaching learning and outcomes. Assessment feedback and marking is effective in ensuring that our children develop the skills, vocabulary and knowledge as outlined in the progression of the science mapping document.

Impact

Assessments of key skills will show that children make progress in their learning across the year and age ranges. The children will have a secure understanding of the areas of Science they have studied and will be able to make links across the areas where appropriate. They will be able to discuss the skills they have used and why they have recorded their findings in a particular way and record their findings numerically and in longer pieces of writing. The children will know the sources they can use to further their learning and pursue areas of interest. Children and staff will be able to talk confidently about the skills and knowledge that they have used as scientists at West End