

Fishergate Primary School Science Policy

Science in our school is about developing children's ideas and ways of working that enable them to make sense of the world in which they live through play, observation and investigation, as well as using and applying process skills. In our science teaching, we will be working towards: developing excitement and curiosity; using growth mind-set to allow children to succeed and reflect on their work; and independence in thinking and collecting evidence. The content of the science we teach should be relevant and lead to an appreciation that science is all around us. We should recognise opportunities to develop skills and knowledge by questioning, discussion and communication of findings in a variety of forms.

Aims and Objectives

- Preparing our children for life in an increasingly scientific and technological world.
- Developing through practical work the skills of questioning, prediction, hypothesising, measurement skills, observation, investigation, interpretation, communication and computing skills.
- Using the outdoors as an extended classroom.
- Fostering a concern about and active care for our environment.
- Encouraging and enabling our children to offer their own suggestions and to be creative in their approach to science.
- Helping our children acquire a growing understanding of scientific ideas.
- Exploring science within a context that is relevant to their own lives.
- Enabling our children to develop their skills of co-operation through working with others.
- Being aware of dangers and the need to work safely.
- Encouraging the development of positive attitudes to science and its importance as a subject.

Guidelines

The aims will be met by:

- Following the school's long-term plan using the objectives from the 2014 National Curriculum.
- Promoting the status of science as a core subject through display, cross-curricular links, science week and homework.
- Providing a stimulating and challenging curriculum that ensures differentiation and progression in vocabulary, key knowledge and scientific skills and opportunities for independent learning.
- Using different teaching styles to accommodate different, inclusive learning styles and develop the use of the five enquiry skills.
- Using the local environment, where appropriate, for investigation and observational work and to provide first-hand experience.
- Following the LA and CLEAPSS guidelines for safety.

Assessment and Recording

Teachers will incorporate into their planning, opportunities for a range of creative assessments of individual children, using the following methods:

- Observing children at work, individually, in pairs, in groups and in classes.
- Questioning, talking and listening to children.
- Assessment activity with end-of-unit tracker, alongside noting any misconceptions to be addressed.
- End of KS1 and KS2 attainment teacher assessment based on trackers and work samples.
- Reporting to parents verbally in the Spring term with science book ready to view and through writing in the annual report, describing each child's attitude to science and progress in enquiry skills and knowledge.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

We are committed to providing all the children with an equal entitlement to the science curriculum at a level that meets their needs. We aim to meet the needs of all our children by providing a variety of approaches and tasks appropriate to their attainment. Some children will require more adult/peer support, more scaffolding or simplified ways to record to allow them to progress whilst children that are higher attaining, will be extended through differentiated and more open-ended activities and questioning. The teacher will have equally high expectations for the Pupil Premium children similar to their peers. EAL pupils should be able to access science because of its emphasis on first-hand experience and vocabulary displayed and clearly taught during the lesson.

Resources

The teaching resources for science are stored in the large locked storeroom downstairs. Boxes are clearly labelled and staff have the opportunity to recommend new resources which will enhance their teaching, in April every year. Staff are also allowed to contact Fulford School to borrow any science resources.

Last updated in September 2023.