



"To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advance in science."

Albert Einstein

This policy outlines the teaching and management of science taught at Weetwood Primary school. *It has been discussed with staff and has the approval of the Governing Body.*

We recognise that the study of science is essential for children to develop skills with which to explore and understand their world. The skills and knowledge of science have wide applicability in everyday life and it has built up a methodology for thinking that forms the basis of most intellectual inquiry. Building on children's natural curiosity and creativity is vital in science.

Aims

Our aims in teaching science are to:

- To stimulate and excite pupils' curiosity about changes and events in the world
- Develop the scientific skills of questioning, making suggestions and predicting, fair testing using equipment and measuring, recording and communicating findings, drawing conclusions and identifying patterns and trends.
- Learn to work as scientists, planning and undertaking scientific investigations and considering evidence derived from them.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of important scientific ideas processes and skills and relate these to everyday experiences.
- Develop the attitudes of critical reflection, open mindedness and perseverance.

Provision

Science is a core subject of the national curriculum and pupils in all key stages undertake science activities. On average an hour of science activity will be undertaken by pupils each week. However, through links with other subjects this can be increased.

Teachers use the Chris Quigley milestones and the national curriculum (updated 2014) to guide what key areas to teach in Science.

Science is often taught through investigative and enquiry-based work to help understand scientific concepts.

Outdoor learning, especially in earlier years, will form a part of children's learning.

The Science in Foundation Stage is developed as part of the continuous provision.

Assessment

Assessment in science is ongoing and formative and takes place in the course of our teaching. Observation, discussion, marking and questioning are all strategies used to assess pupils' understanding.

Summative assessments are made at the end of each unit of work.

Information from assessments is used to inform teachers' planning and to identify the next steps in learning.

Pupils' progress in science is assessed half-termly (at the end of units of study).

Further assessment is currently being developed in line with the Chris Quigley assessment which the school is now using.

Monitoring and review

Science work is monitored and reviewed by the science subject leader through:

- An audit of long term planning
- Scrutiny of medium term planning
- Scrutiny of planning against pupils' work
- Work sampling
- Observations in the classroom
- Analysis of teacher assessment
- Talking to pupils (pupil voice)

These are then used to improve the scientific provision, and tailor the provision better, for the children at Weetwood.

Resources

Science resources are stored centrally in the area adjacent to the central staircase.

Resources are audited on a regular basis. New equipment is purchased each year from an allocated budget.

Any breakages or low stock should be reported to the Science Subject Leader.

Health and Safety

The school's health and safety policy is used for Science to ensure the safety of children in classrooms and beyond for science lessons.

Further to this, in Science, staff will use the 'BE SAFE' guide by ASE and CLEAPPs (with annual password) to help ensure safety in the classroom and beyond.

Additionally, children will be taught to monitor their own health and safety as part of Science.

Equal Opportunities / Special Educational Needs / Gifted & Talented

See the related policies for their application to Science.