Science Policy

Science teaches an understanding of natural phenomena. It aims to stimulate a child's curiosity in finding out why things happen in the way they do. At Pleasant Street Primary School, we follow the National Curriculum and we aim to develop a lively interest in science; encouraging children to ask "Why?" and "How?" We strive to develop children's curiosity through child led enquiry; developing a range of skills which will enable them to work scientifically in a range of ways. Through this we hope to encourage a scientific approach to problem solving and an understanding of the world around them.

Aims

- 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
- To work Scientifically

Purpose of Study

- To foster a positive attitude to science as an interesting and exciting part of the curriculum.
- To foster in children the confidence to apply their knowledge, skills and ideas in real life contexts both within and outside the classroom and become aware of the uses of science in the wider world.
- To provide children with scientific experiences that develop their understanding of themselves and the world in which they live.
- To develop the enquiry skills of predicting, asking questions, making inferences, concluding and evaluating based on evidence and understanding and use these skills in investigative work.
- To introduced and extend children's knowledge and understanding and know that scientific ideas change and are modified.
- To develop the ability of pupils to communicate their ideas using appropriate scientific vocabulary.
- To encourage safe practice in all areas of science.
- To help provide pupils with the competence and confidence to deal with a life in an increasingly scientifically complex society.

Teaching and Learning

Science is taught from Y1 to Y6 and supported and enhanced through other curriculum areas. In Foundation stage, science forms the basis of one of the seven areas of learning. KS1 and KS2 use a collaboration of a variety of websites. For Science enquiry we use Primary Science Post-It Note system.

Nursery and Reception classes are part of the Early Years Foundation Stage we relate the development of the children's knowledge and understanding of the world to the objectives in the Early Learning Goals. These underpin the curriculum planning for children aged 3 to 5. This learning forms the foundations for later work in Science. We provide a range of experiences, both indoor and outdoor, that encourage exploration, problem solving, critical thinking and discussion.

Key features of science lessons include:

- Clear learning intentions and success criteria.
- A balance between classroom science and fieldwork (outdoor learning).
- An opportunity to observe, investigate and where appropriate do simple tests, collect data and look for patterns.
- Ambition for all children.
- Appropriate pace of learning and high expectations.
- Encouragement to share responsibility for their own learning.
- Awareness of the importance of scientific work to everyday life and make relevant links.
- Every effort is made to rectify misconceptions.
- Good use is made of a wide range of resources.
- Questions are specific, scientific and linked to success criteria.
- Learning points are seized and acted upon throughout the lesson and learning is shared and collated, either verbally or with the whole class.

Assessment

Children are assessed against the national curriculum targets relevant to the given topic. These are provided with planning and are then put into children's workbooks. These are assessed continuously and are marked on a RAG basis and dated. Teachers make a final judgement, which is then reported to the science and assessment leads. Analysis of assessment data is used to set targets and alter teaching in order to address particular identified target groups.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Science is monitored following Pleasant Street's Monitoring Schedule which includes book looks, learning walks, pupil interviews and teacher evaluations.

Inclusion

Through our science planning, all ages and abilities will be included across the science curriculum.

Health and Safety

Safe practice must be promoted at all times. Teachers must also take into account all relevant health and safety issues. Please refer to schools' health and safety policy and specific risk assessments. Particular attention must be given to avoiding the use of anything that aggravates individual pupils' allergies.