



## Policy for Science

**SCIENCE** is a very broad body of knowledge, the study of which will lead to a better understanding of ourselves and the world. It provides opportunities to appreciate scientific facts and concepts and to experience scientific discovery.

### Aims

**OUR AIMS IN TEACHING SCIENCE** are to:

- develop the attributes of curiosity, enquiry and original thought, through an understanding and practical experience of scientific methods.
- provide training in observation, recording and oral and written communication.
- develop a responsible attitude towards the natural world and a respect for living things.
- provide experience of working as part of a team in practical investigations.
- provide training in practical skills involved in scientific experimentation.
- provide training opportunities for the general skills of scientific investigation, pattern recognition and theoretical modelling.

### Principles of Learning

**SCIENCE** is important because

- it is the foundation of all understanding of ourselves and the environment
- it develops the skills of critical reasoning and evaluation of data leading to reasoned judgements based on available evidence.
- **SCIENCE** is a core subject in the National Curriculum. The fundamental skills, knowledge and concepts of the subject are set out in “Science in the National Curriculum” where they are categorised into attainment targets:
  1. Experimental and investigative Science.
  2. Life process and living things.
  3. Materials and their properties.
  4. Physical processes.

### Principles for the Teaching

- **SCIENCE IS TAUGHT THROUGH TOPICS AND THEMES** following the Q.C.A. document, which has been developed for Years 1-6.
- **THERE IS NO SPECIALIST TEACHING IN SCIENCE**, it is taught by class teachers.
- **TEACHING ASSISTANTS ARE USED** in most classes to assist.
- **PUPILS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS** are able to develop confidence through practical scientific investigation.
- **HOMEWORK** is used to support Science particularly in KS2.
- **EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE IS CELEBRATED**
  1. through good work certificates and “goldbook”.
  2. Displays, both 2 and 3D.

### 3. Presentation of a Science Shield.

#### **Principles for Ensuring Progress and Continuity**

- **PLANNING IN SCIENCE** is a process in which all teachers are involved.
- the foundation for curricular planning forms part of the Whole School Development Plan, developed through a process of collaboration between staff and approved by governors.
- the Q.C.A. document was assessed by co-ordinators and then discussed with the staff who decided to adopt it throughout the school, replacing existing schemes.
- Work plans are drawn up by individual teachers for each half term and monitored by the Head Teacher and the co-ordinator.

#### **Principles for Assessment**

- **FEEDBACK TO PUPILS** about their own progress in Science is achieved through discussion and marking of work.
- **FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT** is used to guide the progress of individual pupils in Science. It involves identifying each child's progress in each aspect of the subject, determining what each child has learned and what therefore should be the next stage of learning. Formative assessment is mostly carried out informally by teachers in the course of their teaching.
- **FORMAL SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT** is carried out at the end of each topic through teacher assessment and at the end of each National Curriculum Key Stage (i.e. in years 2 and 6) through teacher assessment at the end of KS1 and teacher assessment and SATs at the end of KS2.

#### **Principles for Recording and Reporting**

- **RECORDS OF PROGRESS IN THE SCIENCE ATTAINMENT TARGETS** are kept for each child.
- **REPORTING TO PARENTS** is done on a termly basis through interviews and annually through a written report.

#### **Principles for the Use of Resources**

- **CLASSROOM RESOURCES IN SCIENCE** are kept in the practical areas in KS1 and in cupboards, trolleys etc. in KS2.
- **CENTRAL RESOURCES IN SCIENCE** are the responsibility of the Curriculum Team who have a budget available.
- **VISITS TO VARIOUS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MUSEUMS** are part of the coverage of the curriculum.
- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** is a resource which is used in Science.
- **THE LIBRARY** is used extensively in Science.

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