

Science Policy

Philosophy

The aim of teaching science is to stimulate and excite curiosity about ourselves, the world and the universe and to facilitate an understanding of the ways in which these phenomena work. Science should promote an ability and a willingness to question, experiment, make mistakes and use methods creatively.

All children should have equal opportunity to:

- develop the skills of systematic enquiry through varied experience primary and secondary sources and the use of ICT
- use and relate their knowledge and understanding of science to their everyday lives and the environment around them
- develop their understanding of the nature of scientific ideas
- learn how to communicate their knowledge and understanding, appropriate vocabulary, measures units and recording methods
- realise the important achievements of famous scientists in establishing links between cause and effect.

Science in the National Curriculum

The QCA scheme of work is followed on a continuous basis, being taught in two, one hour blocks each week. Continuity and progression are ensured through the structure of the scheme of work.

Teaching styles, methods and the subsequent learning opportunities are appropriately matched to the content, and varied to ensure a broad and balanced range of experiences for the pupils. These experiences include where possible:

- part and whole investigation, experimental activities
- exploration and improvisation
- research
- consolidation of understanding of concepts through worksheets
- games, role-play, modelling etc.
- application of conceptual knowledge and understanding in problem solving contexts and
- exposition and demonstration where necessary

Assessment and record keeping

Assessment is carried out at the end of each unit. Teachers WILL use the assessment objectives issued by the Science Co-ordinator to assess the pupils' progress and attainment. These assessments are recorded on the agreed grids. Children choose one piece of work to put into their progress books each term.

Equal Opportunities

Science has an essential role to play in the establishment of equal opportunities and the reinforcement of the whole school policy in this vital area. We aim through our Science lessons not only to give access to all but also to establish a culture that challenges any bias or discrimination.