

Science Curriculum Statement

2022/2023



Curriculum Statement - Science

Intent

At West Road, we believe that science helps to provoke a curiosity about the world around us. Children are encouraged to ask questions and use a range of enquiry types to complete investigations. The science curriculum at West Road covers a variety of scientific processes and skills. These skills can then be transferred and applied to other areas of the curriculum and real life situations. We seek to inspire children to learn through experimentation and linking all learning together. Through the curriculum, children will learn about the history and development of scientific thinking and technology. This promotes an understanding that ideas change and we are always discovering new things. They will learn that the world is always adapting the more we find out. The science curriculum is designed to develop a range of transferable skills and a love for discovery and experimentation.

Implementation

Science is taught weekly in each class across the school, with the aim that children can achieve depth in their learning. The school follows PKC planning, using the key concepts in each topic to ensure progression at all stages. This is presented through knowledge organisers which map out the key content of each unit of work. At the beginning of each topic, children consider the questions, 'What do I already know?', 'What would I like to know?' and, 'What have I learnt?' This informs the programme of study and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points. Lessons are designed to include children of all abilities and ensure that they can all demonstrate progress and is in line with the school's commitment to inclusion. Pre and post assessments take place for each unit in the form of a quiz or game.

Cross curricular outcomes in science are specifically planned for. There are strong links between science and maths through data handling and finding patterns. Science can also be taught through literacy using the Literacy Through Stories approach or by selecting texts for a reading lesson with a science focus. Science is linked to all other subject areas; the history and development of science, world geography and the weather and observation art can be used in comparison enquiries. Locality is used wherever possible to ensure children understand the direct effect of science.

Impact

Outcomes in science should evidence a broad and progressive science curriculum and demonstrate children's understanding of key knowledge. Children review their successes in achieving the lesson objectives at the end of each session and are asked to self-evaluate and identify their own targets areas. Children review their learning throughout a unit and compare their knowledge from start to finish. As children progress through the school, they develop a deep knowledge and understanding of different aspects of science and scientific enquiry. Progression across year groups can be observed during incentive weeks where the whole school participates in science learning based around a given theme. The work is shared and celebrated. A joy and curiosity is developed which relates to the evolution towards modern day life and what the future holds in terms of science. This helps children appreciate how science is such a huge part of daily life and will be even more so in the future.