

Science Curriculum Statement



Intent

Science helps answer all those tough questions children ask, like 'Why is the sky blue?' and 'Where do stars come from?'; thus making science the perfect subject to complement a child's natural curiosity. As one of the core subjects taught in Primary Schools, we give the teaching and learning of Science the prominence it requires. This area of learning is concerned with increasing children's knowledge and understanding of our world; it will develop the natural curiosity of the child, encourage respect for living organisms and the physical environment and provide opportunities for critical evaluation of evidence.

Implementation

At Kensington Avenue Primary School, we view Science as an integral part of the core curriculum. Beginning at Foundation Stage, children will be learning about the world they live in through their own exploration and observations; they will predict, think and talk about scientific ideas. We believe that the benefits of learning about science for young children are enormous as it involves a lot of talking and listening whilst developing patience, perseverance, problem solving skills and investigation. Our whole school approach to the teaching and learning of science involves the following:

- In order to enable the achievement of a greater depth of knowledge, science will be imbedded within each learning journey where links can be established between curriculum areas. Where this is not practical, discreet learning will take place.
- Through our planning, pupils are encouraged to work independently, as well as collaboratively, to devise intriguing questions and carry out scientific enquiries to answer them. This paves the way for introducing challenging concepts and new vocabulary which is developed through the years, in-keeping with the topics.
- Creative, practical lessons with investigative work are at the core of our teaching to inspire pupils to develop their sense of curiosity and understanding of the scientific world. Using precise questioning in class to test conceptual knowledge and skills, children are regularly assessed to identify gaps in learning.
- Working scientifically allows children to think about what could happen in a given situation, teaching them to form their own opinions. By learning that not everything works the first time, children become resilient and are eager to 'try again' while constantly asking questions and searching for answers through a range of sources.
- Our dedicated staff will continue to find opportunities to develop children's understanding by accessing outdoor learning and workshops with experts.
- Our school based edible garden will be used as an exciting learning resource where topics can be explored through our senses as well as linking to our 'Healthy Lifestyle' attitude.
- Establishing a close relationship with our partner secondary school, will widen the hands on experience of using scientific equipment within a laboratory setting in areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Children will reflect on prior knowledge and link ideas together, enabling them to become enquiry based learners.

Impact

At Kensington Avenue Primary School, science is approached in a way that makes imaginations blossom and challenges our pupils to make the 'complex' simple whilst leaving them with the opportunity to sit and wonder. Science at our school is fun, exciting and challenging, encouraging pupils to learn and apply relevant scientific vocabulary as they develop the skills acquired from Early Years through to Year 6.

- Children will achieve age related expectations at the end of their cohort year.
- Children will retain knowledge that is relevant to Science with a real life context.
- Children will be able to question ideas and reflect on knowledge.
- Children will work collaboratively and practically to investigate and experiment.
- Children will be able to explain the process they have taken and be able to reason scientifically

Our Science Curriculum is high quality, well thought and is planned to demonstrate progression. Through exploring our local surroundings, participating in expert-led workshops and going on topic related trips, children have the understanding that science has changed our lives and will always play a vital role in our future.

Pupil voice is used to further develop the curriculum through questioning of children's views and attitudes to Science to support their enjoyment and motivate learners.