


SUBJECT CURRICULUM STATEMENT: SCIENCE
INTENT

At St John's C of E First School, we value the importance of science as a core subject and as being integral in the children's understanding of the world around them. We aim for children to develop a sense of enquiry; a natural curiosity and wonder at the way in which science is threaded through their every-day lives. We intend to foster enthusiasm and ambition through science lessons that are engaging, ensuring the learning is memorable and relevant. Through a progressive development of scientific enquiry skills and carefully developed learning opportunities, children will be supported to create their own questions, conduct insightful observations, and draw informed conclusions about the world around them. We aim to build on children's social and cultural understanding by increasing their confidence when using scientific vocabulary to discuss, question and explain their developing scientific understanding. By reflecting on and incorporating our core values of wisdom, respect, hope, self-control and perseverance our children will pursue and apply evidence-based understanding of the world around us. Our aim is for children to leave St John's as confident, knowledgeable and excited young scientists.

IMPLEMENTATION

The science curriculum at St John's is carefully planned, based on the National Curriculum and according to the progression document. Scientific enquiry is intrinsically integrated into each unit, as evidenced in the medium term overviews, and there is a coherent progression in the development of these skills across the year groups.

- ❖ Science objectives are taught coherently, and where relevant, in relation to over-arching topics, other subjects and seasons. Opportunities to apply and develop understanding are utilised in other areas of the curriculum; children are encouraged to build links and recognise connections within their mathematical knowledge, for example when collecting, presenting and analysing data.
- ❖ Teachers implement strategies for revisiting and revising previous learning ensuring 'sticky knowledge' is carried through and built upon effectively.
- ❖ Lessons are adapted so that all children can access the same high quality education.
- ❖ When appropriate, teachers plan alternative ways for children to record their learning and utilise a variety of methods for monitoring understanding.
- ❖ Progress in science is assessed regularly through a variety of methods. Misconceptions are addressed immediately and where necessary, subsequent planning is adjusted accordingly.
- ❖ High quality science resources are easily accessed. In addition, high quality fiction and non-fiction texts are used to compliment science topics.
- ❖ Enquiry, wonder and curiosity is fostered through planning opportunities to question the world around us, developing a wider scientific vocabulary; progressing appropriately as the children build on their breadth of scientific knowledge.
- ❖ Utilising opportunities in our local vicinity to explore science in our world – from classifying trees in our local park to writing to a local Mountain Leader to find out about the survival needs of humans in different habitats.

IMPACT

By the time the children leave us in Year 4, they will have gained the foundations of understanding scientific concepts in the world around them. They will retain scientific knowledge that is pertinent and relatable in a real life context and will be able to articulate this using reasoning and a broad scientific vocabulary. Children will be able to ask and answer, scientific questions by working collaboratively to carry out simple investigations. In addition to this, we aim for children to have developed a love of science through awe and wonder of the world so that they continue to question further the unexplained scientific phenomenon they encounter in their lives beyond their time at St John's.

CULTURAL CAPITAL

We believe that an understanding of science will help children to build an informed picture of the world as it changes and grows and their place within it. It will enable children to make choices about their actions in relation to issues faced by their local community as well as global concerns such as the climate emergency. We want children to leave St John's aware of their own everyday engagement with science. Through our school values of wisdom, hope, respect, self-control and perseverance children are able to reflect on how their knowledge of science can inform their opinions and actions and impact their futures and that of others. We hope children will leave St John's inspired to be part of the great British tradition of achievement in science and technology.