



ENGLEFIELD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCIENCE POLICY

Sowing the seeds for a flourishing future

Aims

The National Curriculum for Science aims to ensure that all pupils:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of scientific enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world about them
- are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

Curriculum planning

The National Curriculum is divided into topic areas for each year group. All children are taught to 'work scientifically' through these topics.

As our classes have 2 year-groups, we have devised a 2-year programme of study in both KS1 and KS2 so each child experiences every topic.

Teaching and Learning

In FS2 and KS1, science is taught through the termly topics. This ensures a solid foundation in science and enables the children to make links between different curriculum areas.

Although KS2 classes aim to incorporate science into the termly topics, at times it is necessary to teach it as a discrete subject. For this reason, KS2 classes have 2 hours of designated science-teaching time each week; this ensures science maintains its important position within the curriculum and prepares the pupils for the transition to secondary school. When possible, UKS2 make use of links with local secondary schools and scientific establishments for enrichment activities; visits and visitors are also planned to enhance teaching and learning across the school. Teachers make use of science displays within their classrooms; the displays can be for information or for showing completed class work and the learning that has taken place.

Assessment

Children in FS2 are assessed through observation and their attainment of the Early Learning Goals is recorded in their Learning Journals. In KS1 and KS2, each child has a science attainment grid in their book which is used to record on-going assessments from the child's work in class. In addition to this, Years 1-6 use Rising Stars Progress Trackers. These give assessments at the beginning, middle and end of each unit as well as an end-of-year assessment for each unit. Teachers use these assessments to support children who demonstrate misconceptions and to inform their future planning. Once an assessment has been done, going through the answers as a class can help to teach the children how to write clear answers to avoid any ambiguity.

Reporting

End of year assessments are reported to parents in the child's annual report. In FS2, science is incorporated into the area of learning and development, 'Understanding the World'; in Years 1-6 there is a designated section for science in the report.

Monitoring

The science coordinator monitors the learning taking place in science throughout the school, using the following activities:

- Planning scrutiny
- Book looks

- Learning walks
- Pupil interviews
- Analysis of assessment data
- Designated staff meeting time

Subject Leader

The role of the Science co-ordinator is to:

- Develop the policy and scheme of work and help support staff in its implementation
- Take responsibility for the ordering and care of resources
- Monitor progress in Science
- Promote activities to enhance teaching and learning in science

Special Needs

All pupils regardless of race, gender or ability have access to the National Curriculum. Staff may be used to support individuals or groups within the classroom or tasks may be adapted or presented in a different way to enable access to all pupils.

Resources

Science resources are stored in the storage area in the hall, the large group room and in individual classrooms.

ICT

ICT is used in Science for research purposes, data handling, and exploration of experiments. Digital cameras, microscopes, stopwatches, calculators, whiteboards and computers are used regularly during science lessons.

Health and Safety

Staff and children are encouraged to use all the Science equipment safely and in accordance with the School's Health and Safety policy. The co-ordinator is responsible for keeping up to date with guidelines for Science and informing staff of any new developments. Risk Assessments will be carried out for all activities that are potentially harmful e.g. investigations involving heat.

Management of Policy

School:	This policy is implemented and managed by the Headteacher and all school teaching staff.
Governing Body:	The Governing Body (led by the Development Committee) will monitor, review and update this policy.
Review:	This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the agreed cycle of review or whenever there is a need to comply with new legislation or codes of practice, new initiatives, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school.
Approved:	Spring 2024
Next Review:	Spring 2026