



Science Policy

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Science Coordinator

This policy document outlines the school's views in relation to how Science is both taught and assessed at Seascope Primary School. It provides a basic framework through which all staff can approach science education and gives guidance in areas such as curriculum content, planning and assessment.

Science is a core subject within the National Curriculum. This policy should be read in conjunction with the New Curriculum 2014 documentation, which sets out in detail what pupils will be taught in different year groups as of September 2014.

Rationale

The teaching of Science at Seascope Primary School provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all pupils should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science.

The teaching of science should promote the development of children's sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

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 science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future

At Seascope Primary School we aim to:

- give children the confidence to ask questions, share ideas and work collaboratively in practical activities.
- encourage children to explore and communicate their ideas using scientific vocabulary.

- give children the opportunities to develop their own theories and provide practical experiences in which they can test them.
- encourage children to work independently and collaboratively to solve problems.
- enable children to draw and report reasonable conclusions from their tests.
- encourage children to discuss and debate scientific topic.

Teaching and Learning

At Seascope Primary School Science is taught to all pupils, following guidance in the New National Curriculum.

Science is taught weekly as a discrete lesson and evidence recorded in individual green science books. Our science lessons have been taken from PlanBee and will be taught through a two-year program to ensure an in-depth coverage of the whole curriculum.

All lessons plans and resources are provided by PlanBee. However, teachers are expected to adapt lessons to suit the needs of their children where necessary.

Assessment

Assessment is in line with the school's Assessment Policy. Science is assessed throughout the year and entered into SIMs at the end of each term.

Formative Assessment (short-term assessment) is carried out during the course of teaching. It enables the teacher to identify a child's understanding and progress in particular aspects, to inform their immediate teaching and to plan for their coming lessons.

Risk Assessment

During Science lessons children are kept safe from danger by ensuring that all equipment is checked regularly and stored carefully. Children are encouraged to assess hazards and discuss the appropriate precautions. Children will also be taught the correct way to handle equipment.

Teachers should be mindful of children with particular medical requirements or food allergies in case of food tasting sessions. If food tasting is planned letters should be sent home in advance to parents and carers.

Equipment and Resources

The resources for the whole school are stored in the KS2 corridor in the Science Resource cupboard. All equipment boxes are labelled and there is a list of resources in the coordinator file. It is the responsibility of each adult to keep the resources neat and tidy and inform the coordinator if any resources are damaged or need replacing.

The science coordinator carries out an annual audit of the resources and replaces any consumables when necessary. New resources can be purchased through negotiation between class teacher and co-ordinator, within the amount allocated in the annual budget.

Equalities Statement

Seascope Primary School is committed to valuing diversity and to equality of opportunity. We aim to create and promote an environment in which pupils, parents and staff are treated fairly and with respect, and feel able to contribute to the best of their abilities.

All lessons are differentiated through quality first teaching, questioning, level of support, resources and intervention. This allows all children to be successful and that no-one should suffer discrimination.

Leadership and Management Roles

The co-ordinator is responsible for:

- Leading development of science within school, including policy documents and audits.
- Monitoring classroom practice and planning to ensure quality of delivery and set future targets.
- Analysing data
- Keeping up to date with developments at local and national levels.
- Auditing, organising and reviewing resources
- Attending courses to further own professional development and provide information and support for colleagues for in service training.

Review Date: July 2022