

SHELTON INFANT SCHOOL

POLICY FOR SCIENCE

Introduction

This document is a statement of the intent and implementation for the teaching of Science in our school. Science is a subject within the National Curriculum and Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (referred to as Understanding the World) and is part of the entitlement of all children.

Intent

At Shelton Infant School our intent is for our children to be confident and excited explorers who are intrigued by the world in which they live. We want to provide our children with opportunities to investigate and enquire to support them in developing greater curiosity. We aim to teach scientific concepts through the use of first-hand practical experiences, as well as using some appropriate secondary sources, such as books, photographs and videos to support children's learning. We want our children to learn and use scientific vocabulary. We aim to inspire children through events such as Science Week, Senses Day, the light/dark classroom etc. We aim to develop our children into considerate young people who care about the plants and animals in the world around them and have an awareness of the impact of science on their lives through our ECO committee, Green Flag accreditation and linking lessons to real world scenarios (e.g.) reducing ocean pollution. We want our children to be confident in asking questions and to have chances to find the answers for themselves, encouraging them to be involved in their own learning and develop enquiring minds.

Our Science curriculum is broad and ambitious with a wide breadth of knowledge and skills taught from the beginning of Nursery to the end of Year Two. It meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and also the requirements of the National Curriculum for Science at Key Stage One.

Implementation

Our whole school progression document and half termly knowledge and skills organisers for Science have been created by teachers working together across all year groups.

EYFS

During their time in the EYFS the children are given plenty of opportunities for investigation in order to help them develop enquiring minds and encourage them to ask questions about the world around them.

Children develop their understanding of the world around them through practical hands on experiments and investigations through both group teaching and continuous provision. Educational visits are carefully chosen to enhance children's learning. We also use non-fiction books, photographs and videos to encourage children to examine secondary sources of information. Adults model correct scientific vocabulary and encourage the children to use it themselves when sharing their ideas.

Key Stage One

During their time in Key Stage One, children will further develop their enquiring minds by asking their own questions. They will predict, plan and carry out investigations and observations as well as conclude their findings. The children will use scientific vocabulary when discussing and presenting their findings with others. Educational visits are carefully chosen to enhance pupil's learning within the Science curriculum.

Children across all year groups are given the opportunity to further their scientific learning at home through challenges that are set at different points in the year. Through the ECO Committee and Green Flag accreditation, children in all year groups are given the opportunity to think about the impact of Science on their own lives and their impact on the world around them.

Our responsibilities for Science within the school

The Headteacher will:

- Set high expectations
- Liase regularly with the subject leader and offer support

The Subject Leader will:

- Lead by example showing a good understanding of the subject
- Ensure that the medium term planning reflects the content of the half termly Knowledge and Skills Organisers for Science
- Maintain an overview of the strengths and areas for development in the subject through lesson observations, learning walks, monitoring of planning, work scrutiny and pupil discussions. A focus will be placed on ensuring continuity and progression of knowledge and skills across the school so that pupils know more and remember more.
- Offer support to teachers in planning, teaching and assessment.
- Deliver training as appropriate to the needs of the school.
- Order and maintain the Science equipment, resources and materials used in school, in consultation with other members of staff.
- Attend training to keep abreast of new initiatives and good practice and disseminate information to colleagues as appropriate.

Teachers will:

- Plan in year groups to complete medium term plans appropriate to the needs of the children using the half termly Knowledge and Skills Organisers to inform this planning.
- Teach to those plans.
- Ensure that the content of their lessons is accessible to all children, irrespective of ability, gender or ethnic origin.
- Use a range of teaching styles and incorporate the use of ICT
- Implement safe working practices in their classrooms.

- Regularly assess children through observation, discussion, questioning and the marking of work to inform the ongoing planning of Science appropriate to the needs of the pupils.
- Complete formative assessments at three points in the year.
- Focus their marking of children's work on scientific content rather than spellings, letter formation, etc.
- Provide parents with an annual report in the summer term to inform them of their child's progress and attainment in Science.

The SENCO will:

- Support the Science Subject Leader and teachers in managing children with special educational needs, encouraging whole school inclusion wherever possible.

Support Staff will:

- Be included in Science training where appropriate.
- Share the learning objectives for each lesson and use the key vocabulary being developed.
- Have a clear understanding of their role in helping children to learn.
- Relate the child's performance to the class teacher.
- Be aware of the safety rules in Science.

Governors will:

- Be kept informed by regular reports from the Headteacher.
- Support staff in implementing the school's policy for Science.
- Endeavour to visit school to observe Science lessons.

Parents will:

- Be informed of their children's progress and attainment through annual reports and parents' evenings.

Children will be encouraged to:

- Enjoy all aspects of the Science work.
- Build on their experience and use past experiences to gain an understanding of the world around them.
- Undertake practical activities to develop their knowledge and understanding.
- Use the correct scientific vocabulary.
- Appraise and evaluate their own work and that of their peers.
- Learn about the safe handling of materials, tools, etc.

