

Science at Cam Hopton

Intent

At Cam Hopton Primary School, we recognise the importance of Science in every aspect of daily life. As one of the core subjects taught in Primary Schools, we aim to give the teaching and learning of Science the prominence it requires.

The scientific area of learning is concerned with increasing pupils' knowledge and understanding of our world, and with developing skills associated with Science as a process of enquiry. It will develop the natural curiosity of the child, encourage respect and awe and wonder for living organisms and the physical environment and provide opportunities for critical evaluation of evidence.

At Cam Hopton Primary School, in conjunction with the aims of the National Curriculum, our Science teaching offers opportunities for children to:

- 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 around them;
- Be equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of Science, today and for the future.
- Develop the essential scientific enquiry skills to deepen their scientific knowledge.
- Use a range of methods to communicate their scientific information and present it in a systematic, scientific manner, including I.C.T., diagrams, graphs and charts.
- Develop a respect for the materials and equipment they handle with regard to their own, and other children's safety.
- Develop an enthusiasm and enjoyment of scientific learning and discovery.
- Learn about scientists of the past and present, and the impacts which they had/have in our world.

The National Curriculum will provide a structure for the science curriculum being taught throughout the school, which is now linked by Maestro, where possible to the theme topics to provide a creative scheme of work, which reflects a balanced programme of study. This enhances the children's learning experiences and provides opportunities for cross-curricular learning.

We endeavour to ensure that the Science curriculum we provide will give children the confidence and motivation to continue to further develop their skills into the next stage of their education and life experiences.

Implementation

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in science, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the school. Planning for science is a process in which all teachers ensure that the school gives full coverage of The 2014 National Curriculum programmes of study for Science and Understanding of the World in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Wherever possible, Science is linked to class topics. At the start of each topic, teachers take time to find out what our children already understand and want to find out. Our teachers use this to adapt and extend the curriculum to match children's interests and needs, current events, the use of any support staff and the resources available. We include the use of technology, wherever appropriate, to aid teaching and learning. Through teacher modelling and planned questioning we want our children to wonder about and be amazed and surprised by the world around them as we recognise that our children sometimes lack experiences. Key scientific language is modelled throughout lessons enabling our children to be familiar with and use vocabulary accurately.

At Cam Hopton Primary School, children have weekly lessons in Science throughout Key Stage 1 and 2 of at least one hour, using various programmes of study and resources, including Maestro, Developing Experts, STEM and Twinkl. In Early years, science is taught through the children learning about the world around them in their learning through play. Additional opportunities are provided in Science, such as Science Weeks inside school, STEM learning experiences delivered by friends of the school, and educational visits linked to the science curriculum, such as visits to We The Curious and Slimbridge RSPB Reserve.

Impact

At Cam Hopton, we aspire to promote children's independence and for all children to take responsibility in their own learning. Pupils often mark against success criteria how they feel about their learning in a lesson. Attainment is tracked through Maestro against National Curriculum expectations and Working Scientifically skills. The successful approach at Cam Hopton Primary results in a fun, engaging, high-quality science education, that provides children with the foundations for understanding the world. Our engagement with the local environment ensures that children learn through varied and first hand experiences of the world around them. So much of science lends itself to outdoor learning and so we provide children with opportunities to experience this. Through various workshops, trips and interactions with experts and local charities, children have the understanding that science has changed our lives and that it is vital to the world's future prosperity. Children learn the possibilities for careers in science as a result of our community links and connection with national agencies such as the STEM association.