



D5 - Copnor Primary School Science Policy

Rationale

Science teaches children about phenomena and the world around them. Science is a medium through which children develop their ability to think, hypothesise, evaluate, explain and question the world around them and the impact of science on it.

Aims

- encourage children to question the world around them, make suggestions and explore possibilities
- encourage children to be creative thinkers
- develop each child's ability to acquire knowledge through an investigative approach, with due regard to safety.
- use computing to develop skills and support knowledge
- make links between science and the real world
- develop children's understanding of key scientific concepts.

Provision

Hours for the teaching of science are set out in the curriculum timings. Science is taught in mixed ability classes with children seated according to ability and work differentiated accordingly.

Elements of attainment targets 2, 3 and 4 are taught in all year groups. The curriculum map details which areas are taught in each term and the Key ideas overview shows which year group and term the different key ideas are addressed. Throughout their time in the school, children will encounter these areas twice; once in Y3/4 and once in Y5/6. The long-term planning ensures that all areas are covered and there is a balance over the four years. The teaching of attainment target 1 is explicit in the majority of lessons and implicit in all. The medium term planning contains learning intentions that consider the key ideas alongside the skills-based learning intentions.

A range of teaching styles are employed to engage, excite, stimulate and promote a desire to develop scientific thinking. Wherever possible, scientific investigations will be set within a real-life context. Emphasis will be placed on an AT1 approach in as many lessons as is possible, and within each unit the children will have the opportunity to participate in an extended investigation which will be led as much as possible by the children.

Resources are audited annually and checked with each year group termly. They are then clearly labelled and stored in the science cupboards downstairs.

SEN

Children with specific needs will be identified and provided for according to their needs; through support, scaffolding and differentiation.

Gifted & Talented

Children will be identified through the G&T register and extended through challenging activities which promote higher-order thinking skills.

Health & Safety

The health and safety policy is adhered to in all lessons, but where there are specific issues it is highlighted within the planning and additional guidance is given.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

All pupils will receive an overall assessment aligned with the 2014 National Curriculum. They will complete an independent assessment at the beginning and end of each unit using CAMs mind maps. This will assess their scientific knowledge and understanding. Their scientific skills will be assessed termly using a teacher assessment sheet which has been delivered according to the NC SC1 and government guidelines. This information will be recorded yearly and presented to parents at the end of the KS1 and KS2.

Achievement and attitude towards how they work scientifically and the level they in, in Science are reported to parents in annual reports and at parent evenings.

Policy updated: Sept 2016

Review Date: Sept 2018