

Bledington Primary School

SCIENCE POLICY



Date of Ratification: 29.09.17	<i>Up-dated 29.09.20</i>	Signed: HEADTEACHER  CHAIR OF GOVERNORS <i>S Newton</i>
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Safeguarding Statement

At Bledington School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Bledington School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

Statement of Intent

Science is a core subject within the national curriculum. This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of science taught at Bledington primary school. It reflects the views of the teaching staff and they are responsible for its implementation. This policy should be read in conjunction with the New National Curriculum document which sets out in detail what pupils will be taught in different year groups.

Policy Statement

‘For children, science is the exploration of the world around them through investigation’. Science is the study of the physical world, involving a collection of facts from observations, physical experiments and working scientifically from which children form ideas about their world. Science has a heavy emphasis on investigation involving prediction, observation, testing and evaluation. We believe that it is good practice for children to be encouraged to actively learn, by developing their own investigations and their own ideas. These ideas will become increasingly founded in scientific knowledge and understanding as they grow.

Aims:

- To develop the natural curiosity of children about the world around them.
- To develop questioning and enquiring minds through a range of experiences
- To help children develop skills to make systematic enquiries
- To provide opportunities for children to apply theoretical ideas by solving problems
- To enable children to increase their attention to accuracy
- To foster a positive attitude towards science and increase their understanding of science in the wider world
- To provide a wide range of experiences to encourage children to ask questions.

Teaching and Learning

We use a variety of teaching and learning styles in our science lessons. Our principle aim is to help develop children’s knowledge, skills and understanding by the following methods:

- Whole class teaching of key skills, topics, concepts or facts.
- Enquiry based research activity, often child led.
- Children asking and answering scientific questions.
- Children data such as statistics, graphs, pictures and photographs to answer questions.
- Children using ICT in science.
- Children taking part in discussions or presenting ideas to the class.
- Taking part in wider, whole school or county or country ‘real’ science.

Science is taught once a week across the school as a stand-alone lesson, in addition to cross-curricular opportunities taken through the week, term and topics.

Responsibilities

The co-ordinator of science, under the Headteacher, is responsible for:

- Encouraging staff to provide effective learning opportunities
- Helping colleagues develop subject expertise
- Collecting and auditing resources.
- Ensuring common standards and formats for teaching and assessment including monitoring.
- Liaising with teaching of the subject in other phases, schools and areas.
- Communicating developments or changes in the subject to other staff.
- Monitoring progress of children across the school and class teaching across the school.

The class teacher, under the Headteacher, is responsible for:

- Planning lessons based on National Curriculum targets and two-year rolling programme.
- Delivering high-quality science lessons that engage and challenge
- Preparing educational visits that stretch and challenge pupils
- Monitoring the progress of the children in their class and reporting to subject leader and head teacher.

Entitlement and Provision

The school's provision of science education is in line with the order of science education within the National Curriculum. Science teaching is covered using the two-year rolling programme, ensuring each child covers the required content by the end of each Key Stage. Science is taught within EYFS as a part of topic work, relating to the Early Learning Goal of Knowledge and Understanding the World.

Assessment and Recording

Assessment is completed in line with the school's making Policy. Assessment opportunities are included in the study of each unit of work with a Teacher assessment at the end of each topic. Assessments should be based on the National Curriculum level descriptors. Teachers assess the children's work in Science in the short-term, medium-term and long-term. Individual and whole class targets are set by the teacher.

Progress

Progress is promoted through the school by use of our progression grids and by our two-year rolling programme which revisits topics in later years to ensure understanding.

Resources

The science coordinator carries out an annual audit of resources and reorders any consumables. New resources can be purchased through discussion between the class teacher, co-ordinator and Headteacher.

Health and safety

In line with Health and Safety policies, safe practise is always followed within Science at Bledington Primary, with necessary guidance provided in response to any incidents or particular topics.

Children are always involved in discussions about possible hazards at the beginning of each new topic. Children are taught appropriate safe practise when using equipment, including being taught how to use equipment correctly and to behave in a considerate and responsible manner.