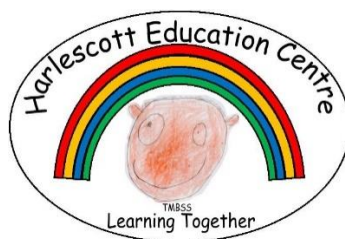


Tuition, Medical and Behaviour Support Service Curriculum Policy - Primary Science



Reviewed: September 2020

Next Review: This document is written in line with the final publication of the New Primary Framework and CDP
To be renewed October 2022

Responsibility: Elie Miles

AIMS and PRINCIPLES

Our Science Policy follows The National Curriculum 2014 for Science Guidelines and 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.

Harlescott Education Centre (HEC) Science Offer

At the beginning of a placement the majority of children attend HEC for either a morning or an afternoon placement. Following a 16 week assessment period children move towards a period of reintegration to fulltime provision at their mainstream school or they begin integration to the setting appropriate for their individual needs.

The breadth and depth of curriculum coverage is therefore delivered in shared partnership with our mainstream schools.

PURPOSE OF STUDY

A high-quality Science education provides foundations for understanding the world. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. Through building key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how key knowledge and concepts can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes. This understanding should be consolidated through their appreciation of applications of Science in society and the economy.

In teaching Science we are developing in our children:

- a positive attitude towards Science and an awareness of its fascination;
- an understanding of Science through a process of enquiry and investigation;
- confidence and competence in scientific knowledge, concepts and skills;
- an ability to reason, predict, think logically and to work systematically and accurately;
- an ability to communicate scientifically;
- the initiative to work both independently and in co-operation with others;
- the ability and meaning to use and apply Science across the curriculum and real life.

PLANNING

School curriculum

The programmes of study for Science are set out year-by-year for Key Stages 1 and 2. We are however, only required to teach the relevant programme of study by the end of the key stage. Within each key stage, the school has the flexibility to introduce content earlier or later than set out in the programme of study and may introduce key stage content during an earlier key stage if appropriate. It is on this basis which we have planned our 'Long Term Plan' over a 'Two Year Cycle'.

CYCLE A

KS1

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Materials	Investigations	Sound
Light	Humans & Keeping Healthy	Plant Growth

KS2

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Materials & Their Properties	Humans & Keeping Healthy	Changing Materials
Light	Sound	Plant Growth

CYCLE B

KS1

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Humans as Animals	Investigations	Forces
Electricity	Changing Materials	Plant & Animal Habitats

KS2

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Humans as Animals	Combining & Separating Materials	Electricity
Earth & Space	Forces	Plant & Animal Habitats

Scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding

The programmes of study describe a sequence of knowledge and concepts. It is important that pupils make outstanding progress and, where possible, that they develop secure understanding of each key block of knowledge and concepts in order to progress to the next stage. However, we focus on developing Science skills through practical, hands on learning experience. Through quality first teaching, we ensure that each individual pupil makes good progress in their ability to work scientifically. This is regardless of their level of knowledge of the Science concepts within the topic taught. This works well as we adapt our questioning and differentiation precisely, constantly evaluating and looking for opportunities to push pupils to the next level of understanding. Our pupils are different ages and abilities with varying experience of Science learning in mainstream schools.

Pupils should be able to describe associated processes and key characteristics in common language, but they should also be familiar with, and use, technical terminology accurately and precisely. They should build up an extended specialist vocabulary. They should also apply their mathematical knowledge to their understanding of Science, including collecting, presenting and analysing data.

Working Scientifically

'Working scientifically' specifies the understanding of the nature, processes and methods of Science for each year group. This should be fundamental in the teaching of all programmes of study. At Harlescott Education Centre we provide as much opportunity for practical Science as possible to teach all pupils to work scientifically. Through quality first teaching, we have high expectations of all pupils as they refine their skills in reasoning, predicting, thinking logically, working systematically and measuring accurately. Above all we foster enquiring minds and the confidence and interest to ask more questions.

Attainment targets

By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

Key Stage 1

The main focus of Science teaching in Key Stage 1 is to enable pupils to experience and observe phenomena, looking more closely at the natural and humanly-constructed world around them. They should be encouraged to be curious and ask questions about what they notice. They should be helped to develop their understanding of scientific ideas by using different types of scientific enquiry to answer their own questions, including observing changes over a period of time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying things, carrying out simple comparative tests and finding things out using secondary sources of information. They should begin to use simple scientific language to talk about what they have found out and communicate their ideas to a range of audiences in a variety of ways. Most of the learning about Science should be done through the use of first-hand practical experiences, but there should also be some use of appropriate secondary sources, such as books, photographs and videos.

Pupils should read and spell scientific vocabulary at a level consistent with their reading and spelling knowledge at Key Stage 1.

Lower Key Stage 2

The main focus of Science teaching in Lower Key Stage 2 is to enable pupils to broaden their scientific view of the world around them. They should do this through exploring, talking about, testing and developing ideas about everyday phenomena and the relationships between living things and familiar environments, and by beginning to develop their ideas about functions, relationships and interactions. They should ask their own questions about what they observe and make some decisions about which types of scientific enquiry are likely to be the best ways of answering them, including observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying things, carrying out simple fair tests and finding things out using secondary sources of information. They should draw simple conclusions and use some scientific language, first, to talk about and, later, to write about what they have found out.

'Working scientifically' must **always** be taught through and clearly related to substantive Science content in the programmes of study.

Pupils should read and spell scientific vocabulary correctly and with confidence, using their growing reading and spelling knowledge.

Upper Key Stage 2

The main focus of Science teaching in Upper Key Stage 2 is to enable pupils to develop a deeper understanding of a wide range of scientific ideas. They should do this through exploring and talking about their ideas; asking their own questions about scientific phenomena and planning their own investigations; they will be analysing functions, relationships and interactions more systematically and independently.

At Upper Key Stage 2, they should encounter more abstract ideas and begin to recognise how these ideas help them to understand and predict how the world operates. They should also begin to recognise that scientific ideas change and develop over time. They should select the most appropriate ways to answer Science questions using different types of scientific enquiry, including observing changes over periods of time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying things. They need to be measuring with increased accuracy, record data independently and be able to create scientific diagrams and graphs. Pupils should draw conclusions based on their data and observations, use evidence to justify their ideas, and use their scientific knowledge and understanding to explain their findings. Pupils need to be confident enough to identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments and go on to make further predictions and suggest new fair tests.

'Working and thinking scientifically' must **always** be taught through and clearly related to substantive Science content in the programmes of study.

ASSESSMENT

This is achieved through:

- discussion with pupils;
- observation of pupils;
- marking work using the TMBSS Marking Policy;
- Pupils presenting their results and reporting on investigations they have carried out;
- Teachers use ongoing assessment for learning to inform planning and next steps.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This is achieved by the Science coordinator through;

- monitoring and evaluation of pupils' work;
- lesson observations;
- monitoring of planning.