

Science at St Elizabeth's

Curriculum Intent

At St Elizabeth's, Science lessons teach children about the world around them and how it works. Children develop the knowledge and skills to think like scientists through a well-sequenced curriculum that builds on previous knowledge. Lessons ignite students' curiosity and allow them to question, explore and address misconceptions through a range of guided activities and investigations. Children's scientific knowledge is developed alongside cross-curricular links to Maths, English and Design Technology. Science is taught through our school's Catholic ethos and children are encouraged to see themselves as stewards of our world.

Implementation

Science planning is supported by the Developing Experts scheme. This provides a framework for lessons with a focus on developing key vocabulary using 'rocket words'. Teachers are also able to use a range of additional resources to support children's learning. Lesson presentations give information in a clear and engaging manner and are followed up with appropriate activities or investigations to develop skills and consolidate knowledge. Working Scientifically skills are focussed on discretely within each lesson, using the TAPS (Teaching Assessment in Primary Science) working scientifically cycle to highlight skills to pupils.

Science is taught for 2 hours each week. Lessons follow the structure of:

- Retrieval practice (last lesson, last week, last term)
- Introduction of WALT and key vocabulary
- Introduction of Working Scientifically focus
- Delivery of knowledge through teacher presentation, reading and note taking
- Consolidation of knowledge and development of skills through practical or written activities
- Plenary summarising key learning

Questioning and mini-plenaries are used to address misconceptions throughout the lesson.

Impact

Children look forward to science lessons and are developing their understanding of the world around them and how to take care of it. As they move through the school, children gain the confidence to ask scientific questions and find answers through investigation and research. Children begin to see themselves as scientists and are aware of STEM careers that might be available to them in future.

Science Week

Children's enthusiasm for science is demonstrated in our yearly celebration of British Science Week. This week includes practical investigations, visits from STEM ambassadors and a poster competition. Children are enthusiastic to share their work in a celebratory assembly at the end of the week.