Science curriculum goals

Intent

At Church Gresley Infant and Nursery School, all of our children are scientists! Our curriculum focuses on teaching essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science through exciting, practical hands on experiences. Through these stimulating and challenging experiences, we aim to help every child secure and extend their scientific knowledge and vocabulary to become enquiry-based learners, with a curiosity and sense of awe of the natural world.

Implementation

At Church Gresley Infant and Nursery School we recognise that a high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world. The Science National Curriculum is covered in depth throughout the year using an integrated, cross curricular approach. Our curriculum has been designed so that it is accessible to all children and builds on previous learning. Within the curriculum, children are encouraged to independently predict, investigate and analyse whilst showcasing their scientific, investigative and enquiry skills. Additionally, we support all pupils to develop their questioning skills and a greater understanding of working scientifically. Our aim is to develop children's confidence and resilience to explore their lines of enquiry.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, pupils develop their skills and knowledge through Understanding the World and first hand experiences. During years 1 and 2, pupils continue to develop their skills and knowledge through first hand experiences, exploration, investigation, questioning and observation. Our Progression of Skills document ensures that science is planned and taught in order to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group and across the school, enabling topics to be revisited in ways that build on pupils' knowledge and understanding. Previous learning is revisited at the beginning of each lesson to provide children with opportunities to recap and build on previous knowledge. Additionally, pupils' knowledge, understanding and scientific skills are assessed at the end of each lesson and revisited where necessary. Furthermore, at the end of each science topic, Key Stage 1 pupils complete a mini assessment which is used alongside the formative assessment data to enable the teacher to make an accurate judgement.

Impact

Through a variety of first hand experiences pupils will reach age-related expectations and demonstrate a real sense of the world around them, to equip them to further develop their scientific knowledge in key stage 2. Furthermore, the children will leave our school as confident learners who have a keen interest in science and aspire to become the next generation of scientists in a wide variety of careers.