



**BIRCH COPSE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**SCIENCE POLICY**

**Version**

Version 2

**Status:**

*Good practice*

**Introduction**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the School's Teaching and Learning Policy statement which deals with matters common to all subjects and with the Science Guidelines. It was compiled by the Headteacher and staff, and approved by the governors.

Science will be taught in accordance with the New National Curriculum Programmes of Study. Progress will be monitored. Due regard will be paid to the advice received from the statutory bodies.

**Aims and Objectives**

The national curriculum for science 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.

Science is taught in such a way at Birch Copse as to reflect the vision, aims and values of the school.

Science teaching should offer opportunities for children to:

- develop positive attitudes towards science and to give children a sense of achievement
- build upon the best primary practice of learning where possible through investigation and first-hand experience, within the child's physical environment
- extend knowledge and understanding of important scientific ideas, processes and skills and relate these to everyday experiences
- to aim to raise children's self esteem and confidence and encourage them to use reflection and thinking skills, in order for them to overcome difficulties, ask searching questions and draw sensible conclusions
- acquire scientific and mathematical skills
- to make science accessible to all in our school community

Science is important in everyday life. It is integral to all aspects of life and with this in mind we endeavour to ensure that children develop a healthy and enthusiastic attitude towards the subject that will stay with them.

**Planning and Organisation**

Planning

Planning for Science is carried out following the scheme of work, policy and guidance notes for Science. These documents are the responsibility of the Science subject leader. Subject leaders

provide support for teachers, who work with reference to the New National Curriculum to develop medium term plans. Class teachers are responsible for short term planning.

#### Pupils' experiences

Children will be given opportunities to understand the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all pupils should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of 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 science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

#### Cross-curricular links

Cross-curricular links are embedded in the planning, teaching and learning of Science. Medium term plans are adapted and linked to topics where appropriate.

#### Information and Communication Technology

The use of ICT and the teaching of ICT should enhance, develop and support pupils' learning of Science.

#### Homework

Appropriate homework will be set by the class teacher to enhance and develop children's learning in Science following guidelines from the school's homework policy. A programme of liaison will be maintained with parents in all years to ensure their understanding of Science as a core subject and they may be invited to participate in practical or other tasks at home to support learning within school.

#### **Equal Opportunities and Special Needs**

Every pupil will be given equal opportunity to follow the National Curriculum or Foundation Stage Curriculum irrespective of their ethnic or linguistic background, gender, disability or religious beliefs. Children with Special Educational Needs will have full access to the Science curriculum. Those identified as Able, Gifted and Talented in Science will be given opportunities to develop their skills.

#### **Assessment, Record Keeping and Marking**

Assessment, record keeping and marking will be carried out according to the school's policies.

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.

#### **Monitoring**

The monitoring of Science will take the form of classroom observations, monitoring of planning, work sampling, learning walks and monitoring of displays. The subject leader is responsible for the monitoring of Science. Evaluation of monitoring will take the form of a report to be shared with teaching staff and governors.

#### **Other Policies and Documents**

Please also refer to the following policies and documents:

School based:

Science Guidance notes, Science Scheme of Work, KS1 and KS2 topic cycles, Assessment, Recording and Reporting policy, Able, Gifted and Talented policy, Special Education Needs policy, Marking policy and Homework policy

Other:

New National Curriculum

### **Role of the Science Subject Leader**

- To audit, order, organise and store resources appropriately
- To manage the science budget effectively
- Advise and support colleagues
- Motivate and encourage colleagues in their Science teaching
- To raise awareness of any relevant training for staff
- To keep up to date with current thinking in the teaching and learning of Science and keep staff informed of changes in the curriculum
- To keep the Science subject leader's file up to date
- To monitor and evaluate Science standards throughout the school
- To organise any school-wide events associated with Science.

### **Responsible officer**

Science Subject Leader

**Date of last review: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015**

**Dates of amendments: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015**

**Date of next review: October 2018**