

Statement of Intent – What we want our children to gain from Science lessons

We promote the fact that lessons should be all about giving children a hands-on experience, enabling children to discover science for themselves.

Science offers so many opportunities for **investigation**, both inside and outside the classroom. It is taught throughout the school, allowing children of all ages to enjoy the subject. Lessons are as interactive and meaningful as possible. For instance, while studying the digestive system in year 4 pupils understand the journey of food by being asked to count out 10 seconds to show the time taken for food to travel from mouth to stomach, display 15 cups of water to show capacity of stomach, place a ball in the end of a long sock and push it along by squeezing behind to show peristalsis and measure out 6m of string to show the length of the small intestine.

Science is all around us and we try to contextualise pupils' learning by making the lessons relevant; for example, relating what they are learning to their lives. We want them to talk about the world around them, be **curious** about what they see, encouraging them to ask questions and not to take things for granted, but to wonder how things happen. We encourage them to describe and **explain** what they find.

Within the curriculum is a Working Scientifically element. This focuses on the skills the children need to become accurate, careful and confident practical scientists. Children are expected to master skills, for example by Year 6, the children should be able to plan and carry out a fair test by using equipment accurately and taking exact readings or measurements. They are also expected to be able to draw conclusions from their results and record them using a range of graphs and charts.

BIG IDEAS

CURIOSITY – I am a Scientist because I am **curious**, I ask questions and do not take things for granted, but wonder how things happen.

INVESTIGATION – I am a Scientist because I learn about science by being totally hands-on and I use a systematic and logical approach to **investigating** and finding things out for myself.

EXPLANATION – I am a Scientist because I use evidence and measurements to describe and **explain** and then give reasons for why things happen.