



Science Policy 2023

Through Christ we believe, inspire, achieve.

Completed by: A. Rooney
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1. Curriculum Intent

At English Martyrs Catholic Primary School, we encourage children to be inquisitive throughout their time at the school and beyond. The Science curriculum fosters a healthy curiosity in children about our universe and promotes respect for the living and nonliving. We believe science encompasses the acquisition of knowledge, concepts, skills and positive attitudes. Children are encouraged to ask questions and be curious about their surroundings and a love of science is nurtured through a whole school ethos and a varied science curriculum.

2. Science and the National Curriculum

Throughout the programmes of study, the children will acquire and develop the key knowledge that has been identified within each unit and across each year group. The key knowledge identified by each year group is informed by the national curriculum and builds towards identified phase 'end points' in accordance with NC expectations.

Key skills are also mapped for each year group and are progressive throughout the school. These too ensure systematic progression to identified skills end points which are in accordance with the Working Scientifically skills expectations of the national curriculum.

The curriculum is designed to ensure that children are able to acquire key scientific knowledge through practical experiences; using equipment, conducting experiments, building arguments and explaining concepts confidently.

The school's approach to science takes account of the school's own context, ensuring access to people with specialist expertise and places of scientific interest as part of the school's commitment to learning outside the classroom. Cross curricular opportunities are also identified, mapped and planned to ensure contextual relevance.

3. Pupil Experiences

Pupils will receive weekly science lessons. Pupils will take part in special days such as British Science Week, World Mars Day and a Science Gadget Shop. We have a link with STEMazing women who deliver sessions throughout the year according to their expertise.

4. Rationale

Equal opportunities to study Science effectively will be given to all pupils. Staff will teach meaningful everyday contexts, so children can relate Science to their everyday experiences. Every opportunity will be taken to introduce new vocabulary - lessons will begin with the introduction or review of vocabulary which will then be used throughout the lesson. Vocabulary will also be included on each project booklet.

5. Equal Opportunities

Inclusion is at the centre of everything we do at English Martyrs. All children will have Quality First Teaching. Any children with identified SEND or in receipt of pupil premium funding may have work additional to and different from their peers in order to access the curriculum dependent upon their needs. As well as this, our school offers a demanding and varied curriculum, providing children with a range of opportunities in order for them to reach their full potential and consistently achieve highly from their starting points.

Equal opportunities will be given to all children in respect of:

- Race
- Gender
- Culture
- Special Educational Needs

6. Monitoring arrangements

Assessment of Science at both KS1 and KS2 will be based on teachers' judgments from:

- Assessing children's understanding of topic-linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Marking of written work in books.
- Images and videos of the children's practical working.
- Interviewing the children about their learning (pupil voice)
- 'Pupil Book Study' to monitor the children's progress in Science.
- Formative assessment throughout lessons with scientific questioning.
- Summative assessment at the end of each term.
- Annual reporting of standards for parents.

7. Cross Curricular Links

When and where appropriate, opportunities will be encouraged to promote scientific learning across the curriculum. This could be through links with:

- D & T – Design and make an end product.
- Computing – using research tools (like the internet), word-processing etc.
- Maths - Gather, record, classify and present in different ways.

8. Resources

A resource audit will be carried out at the start and end of the school year to ensure all resources are available for lessons.

9. Health and Safety

Children will be shown how to use all equipment safely and monitored whilst using any equipment that poses a risk to themselves. Enlisting the help of ASE and CLEAPSS, English Martyrs complete risk assessments when using any substances deemed to be of risk to pupils and teachers.

Staff will refer to current Health and Safety practices, safety regulations and safeguarding requirements.

10. Monitoring of the Science Policy

The Science policy will be monitored as an ongoing document, in collaboration with the Head teacher and the senior leadership team.

11. Evaluation of Policy

The policy will be evaluated against certain criteria; insets undertaken by staff members, staff viewpoints and discussions carried out by the co-ordinators and the Headteacher.