Curriculum Intent Statement

Science at St Paul's Peel CE Primary School



Intent

Science teaching at St. Paul's Peel Primary School aims to give all children a strong understanding of the world around them whilst acquiring specific skills and knowledge to help them to think scientifically, to gain an understanding of scientific processes and also an understanding of the uses and implications of Science, today and for the future.

At, St. Paul's Peel Primary School scientific enquiry skills are embedded in each topic the children study and these topics are revisited and developed throughout their time at school.

Topics, such as Plants, are taught in Key Stage One and studied again in further detail throughout Key Stage Two. This model allows children to build upon their prior knowledge and increases their enthusiasm for the topics whilst embedding this procedural knowledge into the long-term memory. This particular topic is also enhanced by the year long access to our poly tunnel and dedicated gardening area.

All children are encouraged to develop and use a range of skills including observations, planning and investigations, as well as being encouraged to question the world around them. It is our intention that they become independent learners in exploring possible answers for their scientific based questions. Specialist vocabulary for topics is taught and developed, and effective questioning to communicate ideas is encouraged. Concepts taught are reinforced by focusing on the key features of scientific enquiry, so that pupils learn to use a variety of approaches to answer relevant scientific questions.

Implement

Teachers are provided with; a half termly plan stating non-negotiable objectives based on National Curriculum and suggestions for enhancing their topic and vital scientific vocabulary for each topic. Teachers develop these plans into weekly lessons. Working Scientifically is a priority with a hands on approach highly valued. The long-term plan is linked to other curriculum areas such as PSHE/RSE, Design Technology and PE.

We have Class books on Nature in Key Stage One and Weather Books which document activities that monitor seasonal changes and events around the world throughout the school year.

In Key Stage Two, we use 'What if?' books that pose open ended questions for classes to ponder and investigate – informally responses are recorded on post it notes

We use biographies of notable Scientists and inventors as part of our Science Curriculum

St Pauls Peel CE Primary School purchased and adopted the Headstart Science Assessment scheme in 2019 which has a comprehensive coverage of the Primary Science Curriculum from Year 1 to Year 6. Half termly Science assessments take place on the topic covered, which are fed to the Science lead to monitor and analyse. Included with this assessment material, teachers have access to prior learning (pre-learning assessments) which can be used to assess where their new class stand with topics that grow throughout the Primary Years.

There are also multi topic assessments that can serve as refresher/revision sessions throughout the year to recap learning.

St Pauls Peel's CE Primary School has a history of inviting experts into our school which we are keen to re-instate post Covid 19 restrictions. Links with partners such as The Woodland Trust, RHS Bridgewater, Incredible Education (Incredible Edible) and Forest School are form some of our previous enhancement of the Science curriculum.

We also hope to resume visits out of school to museums available to us Jodrell bank and The Science Museum Manchester

Impact

Our Science Curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. This progress is measured through the use of summative assessments and feed into future curriculum planning.

We have a pupil survey to gather their opinions of their own Science experiences at our school and we welcome suggestions readily.