

Science

Wrenthorpe Academy



Curriculum Intent

The intent of our Science curriculum is to design an accessible and engaging curriculum which enables all children to achieve their full potential whilst also providing further challenge.

It gives children a strong understanding of the world around them whilst acquiring specific skills and knowledge to help them to think scientifically, gain an understanding of scientific processes and an understanding of the uses and implications of Science, today and for the future.

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 they live in. Children are to become independent learners by exploring possible answers for their scientific based questions. Specialist scientific vocabulary is taught and built up, and effective questioning to communicate ideas is encouraged throughout school. 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.

Scientific enquiry and skills are built upon within each topic. Where a topic is a year-round subject such as seasons and weather, classes build upon this regularly by discussing daily/weekly weather, changes of seasons as well as discussing worldwide weather and the ever changing climate that we often see today around the world. This approach allows children to build upon their knowledge little and often over time with matters that are hands on and relevant to them as they happen.

Curriculum Implementation

The curriculum for Science at Wrenthorpe Academy is designed to be flexible for teachers to be able to plan the very best for our children. For example, if a Science topic is relevant to another curriculum topic, then teachers have the flexibility to move that topic within that year to get the very upmost academically.

Where there is no specific topic to teach within a half term, teachers are to plan relevant outdoor learning activities and extra investigations. These are to build on existing skills taught as well as introduce new ones. It also gives children further opportunities to ask scientific questions and build on enquiry skills. Children are encouraged to explore and ask about scientific phenomena that other topics would not necessarily allow for or be given a chance to explore a phenomena more deeply.

EYFS

Within the Reception classes, children are encouraged to explore the world in which they live in daily within the indoor and outdoor provision in a very 'hands on' approach. Teachers plan topics which cover the Early Years Foundation Stage objectives for Understanding the World in a cross curricular manner. Teachers also cover ongoing topics such as the weather and seasons daily ensuring children develop a good understanding as well as learn and use the correct vocabulary.

Impact

Our approach to Science at Wrenthorpe Academy allows for quality teaching and learning throughout all year groups. Lessons are planned for through fun and engaging activities with hands on investigations which question and develop children's understanding further.

Teachers assess the children continuously throughout lessons to ensure all make progress and this can then be built upon appropriately.

Lessons are encouraged to be taken outdoors wherever possible and this allows children to explore the world they live in. Outdoor learning days are undertaken each term with a different subject focus each time.

Science weeks have captured children's thinking and curiosity in different ways and gripped their enthusiasm and passion for Science.