

The Woodlands Community Primary School

Curriculum Intent Statement: Science



The National Curriculum is the fundamental basis of our curriculum at Woodlands; the curriculum coverage, content and progression of knowledge and skills are outlined in detail in our long-term and medium-term planning documents. We believe in educating the whole child and as such, this curriculum in this subject also enhances these core elements:

	<p><u>Nature:</u> The science curriculum at Woodlands provides children with the opportunities to explore and investigate the world around them. Children begin by learning about the basic structure and needs of plants and trees by exploring them in the local environment. This knowledge is built on throughout the years and children learn about a diverse range of trees and plants around the world whilst developing skills such as observing, comparing and categorising. Children also develop a range of skills through the study of animals and their habitats.</p>
	<p><u>Investigation:</u> Investigation is at the heart of our science learning at the Woodlands. We plan for regular opportunities for the children to follow their own interests, plan their own investigations, to ask questions about the world around them and seek ways to answer them. Children are exposed to a wide range of scientific concepts through exploration, child initiated learning opportunities and investigations. We encourage all children to ask questions, observe and develop and foster a natural curiosity of the world around them.</p>
	<p><u>Change:</u> Observing changes is a large part of our investigations in science at Woodlands. Some investigations involve children observing changes over a long period of time. These longer investigations provide opportunities to develop deeper learning. Children learn the components of a fair test through predicting, controlling measures and evaluating results. Conducting investigations also allows children to develop key life skills such as patience, resilience and communication.</p>
	<p><u>Processes</u> Science is everywhere, therefore our science curriculum is built around children developing a sound knowledge and understanding of the world around them. Children have the opportunity to learn about different processes and how they shape the world we live in. Understanding these processes allows children to make links between learning. Whilst also allowing them to solve problems and make informed decisions. We provide children with experiences that helps promote curiosity and leads to asking questions. Children are able to construct a hypothesis, test it with evidence and evaluate the result. This learning will help inform future decision making based on the results they have formed, using critical thinking and evidence to create solutions.</p>
	<p><u>Materials:</u> Within the science curriculum at Woodlands children are given the opportunity to explore and understand a range of materials and their properties. In lower years' children handle and explore materials to learn the names and describe the basic properties. In the upper key stage children learn about different states of materials through carrying out investigations and drawing conclusions. Children are encouraged to apply this knowledge in other areas of learning and develop cross curricular links. Children are exposed to a wide scientific vocabulary and are encouraged to use and apply it in their verbal and written work. Scientific vocabulary is displayed in every classroom for each topic so children can easily access them. They are also modelled regularly by class teacher.</p>