



Science Curriculum Statement

Why is Science important?

Science teaches an understanding of natural phenomena. It aims to stimulate a child's curiosity in finding out why things happen in the way they do. It teaches methods of enquiry and investigation to stimulate creative thought. Children learn to ask scientific questions and begin to appreciate the way science will affect their future on a personal, national, and global level. Science teaching at St George's Central 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.

The 2014 National Curriculum for Science aims to ensure that all children:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.
- Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them.
- Are equipped with the scientific skills required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

What is Science like at St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery?

At St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery we aim to develop our children's scientific skills through first-hand knowledge and practical application. Scientific enquiry skills are embedded in each topic the children study and these topics are revisited and developed throughout their time at school. 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.

First hand practical experience is paramount. All children are encouraged to develop and use a range of skills including; observations, planning and investigating, as well as being encouraged to question the world around them and become independent learners in exploring possible answers for their scientific based questions. Concepts taught are reinforced by focusing on the key features of scientific enquiry, so that children learn to use a variety of approaches to answer relevant scientific questions.

In Science children observe, explore and ask questions about living things, materials and physical processes. They evaluate evidence and consider whether tests or comparisons are fair. They use reference materials to find out more about scientific ideas. They share their ideas and communicate them using scientific language, drawings, charts and tables.

We also introduce and nurture responsible attitudes to the environment and all living things. All classes are encouraged to explore the local environment every half term, making close observations and noting changes between seasons.

Specialist vocabulary for topics is taught and built upon; children are encouraged to articulate their understanding, using the relevant vocabulary.

We recognise that there are children of widely different scientific abilities in all classes and we ensure that we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child.

'Never settle for less than your best'

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' John 8:12

Ways to explore Spirituality in Science

At St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery we believe that our curriculum should provide opportunities for children to develop a love of learning, so that they go on to make a positive difference to themselves, their community and the wider world. We have developed a definition of what we believe Spirituality is:

'Spirituality is...an understanding of how beliefs, values and experiences shape the identity of individuals, their spiritual disciplines and connections with life.'

Our Science curriculum provides opportunities for spiritual development through/by

- **Awe and wonder:** Topics such as space, life cycles, forces and the human body inspire curiosity and a sense of amazement about the natural world.
- **Big questions and reflection:** Scientific enquiry encourages children to ask deep questions about existence, origins and how the world works.
- **Curiosity and imagination:** Predicting, hypothesising and investigating nurture imagination and creative thinking within a scientific framework.
- **Appreciation of nature:** Learning about habitats, ecosystems and environmental change fosters respect, care and connection to the natural world.
- **Respect for different perspectives:** Topics such as evolution and the origins of the universe provide opportunities to acknowledge and discuss different beliefs sensitively.
- **Personal insight and responsibility:** Studying the human body, health and sustainability supports self-awareness and reflection on children's role in caring for themselves and the world.

Opportunities to celebrate Science at St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery.

Visitors in school, quality texts in the library, trips linked to Science topics studied and whole school 'Science weeks'.

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