Science Curriculum Statement

Intent
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.

At Scotforth St Pauls CE Primary and Nursery School we understand that Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world’s future prosperity. We believe science encompasses the acquisition of knowledge, concepts, skills and positive attitudes. Through the programmes of study in the National Curriculum science document all children will acquire and develop these skills throughout their time with us. We ensure that the Working Scientifically skills are built-on and developed so that all children can use equipment, conduct experiments, build arguments and explain concepts confidently while continuing to ask questions and be curious about their surroundings.

Implementation
All of our teachers create a positive attitude to science learning within their classrooms and reinforce the expectation that all children can achieve high standards in science. Our whole school approach to the teaching and learning of science involves the following;

* Science will be taught in planned and arranged topic blocks in KS1 by the class teacher, to have a project-based approach. This is a strategy to enable the achievement of a greater depth of knowledge. In KS2 science will be taught as a separate lesson by the class teacher but will be linked to our topic work where appropriate.
* Through our planning, children are encouraged to ask their own questions and are given opportunities to use their scientific skills and research to discover the answers. New vocabulary and challenging concepts are introduced through direct teaching. Teachers use precise questioning in class to test conceptual knowledge and identify misconceptions accurately. Clear and direct feedback is provided during lessons by class teachers.
* We build upon the learning and skill development of the previous years. As the children’s knowledge and understanding increases, and they become more proficient in selecting, using scientific equipment, collating and interpreting results, they become increasingly confident in their growing ability to come to conclusions based on real evidence.
* Teachers create an environment that allows the children to focus on learning. They demonstrate how to use scientific equipment, and the various Working Scientifically skills in order to embed scientific understanding.

Impact
The successful approach at Scotforth St Pauls CE Primary and Nursery School results in a fun, engaging, high-quality science education, that provides all children with the foundations for understanding the world. We provide children with opportunities to experience science in an outdoor setting whenever possible. Through workshops, trips and visits from experts and local charities, children understand the world in which they live and have enquiring minds. Children enjoy science in our school, and this results in motivated, high achieving, learners who are ready to move on to the next stage of education.