

Statement of Intent – What we want our children to gain from Science lessons

Our Science curriculum at St. Michael's is rooted firmly within the National Curriculum Programs of Study and aims to provide a high quality science education which will give our pupils the foundation for understanding the World. We provide opportunities for our pupils to develop the skills to rationally explain what they have observed, investigated and learnt, alongside creating excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. To this end we promote the fact that lessons should be all about giving children a hands-on experience and enabling children to discover science for themselves.

Science offers so many opportunities for **investigation**, both inside and outside the classroom. It is taught throughout the school, allowing children of all ages to enjoy the subject. Lessons are as interactive and meaningful as possible.

Science is all around us and we try to contextualise pupils' learning by making the lessons relevant; for example, relating what they are learning to their lives. We want them to talk about the world around them, be **curious** about what they see, encouraging them to ask questions and not to take things for granted, but to wonder how things happen. We encourage them to describe and **explain** what they find.

We build upon previous knowledge and skills, revisiting themes several times throughout the children's time here, allowing for consolidation and an accumulation of knowledge which begins in our Early Years.

Within the curriculum is a 'Working Scientifically' element. This focuses on the skills the children need to become accurate, careful and confident practical scientists. They will master the skills of planning and carrying out fair tests, using equipment accurately, taking exact readings and measurements and recording these in appropriate and accessible ways.

We want our children to leave St. Michael's able to use science to explain what is happening, predict what will happen and reflect on cause and effect.

BIG IDEAS

CURIOSITY – I am a Scientist because I am **curious**, I ask questions and do not take things for granted, but wonder how things happen.

INVESTIGATION – I am a Scientist because I learn about science by being totally hands-on and I use a systematic and logical approach to **investigating** and finding things out for myself.

EXPLANATION – I am a Scientist because I use evidence and measurements to describe and **explain** and then give reasons for why things happen.