Draycott & Rodney Stoke
C of E First School

Together, We Flourish and Grow

Science

Intent, Implementation and Impact statement

Intent

At Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School, our intent for Science education is to ignite curiosity, wonder, and a love of learning about the world around us. Rooted in our inclusive and nurturing school ethos, we are committed to ensuring that every child—regardless of background, ability, or additional need—has the opportunity to flourish and become the very best version of themselves.

We believe a high-quality science education is essential in helping pupils make sense of the world. Our curriculum is designed to develop both scientific knowledge and the skills necessary to explore, investigate, and question the natural phenomena they encounter in everyday life.

Our science intent is guided by the following principles:

- **Engagement and Inspiration**: We strive to engage learners through meaningful, hands-on experiences that bring science to life. Through exciting activities and real-world contexts, we aim to inspire children to ask thoughtful questions and develop a lifelong interest in science.
- **Inquiry-Based Learning**: Our approach encourages exploration, discovery, and a spirit of investigation. We nurture inquisitive minds by supporting children in developing their own lines of enquiry, enabling them to think critically and independently.
- **Knowledge and Skills Development**: We aim to provide a solid foundation of knowledge across the biological, chemical, and physical sciences, alongside key scientific skills such as observing, predicting, recording, and evaluating.

- **Inclusivity**: We are dedicated to offering a science curriculum that is fully accessible to all learners. Our teaching is responsive to individual needs, ensuring all children are supported and challenged appropriately.
- **Environmental and Global Awareness**: At Draycott & Rodney Stoke, we help children understand their responsibility as global citizens by integrating environmental education and sustainability into our science curriculum, fostering awareness of key global issues.

Implementation

To bring our science vision to life, we deliver a carefully planned and sequenced curriculum that promotes inquiry, builds on prior learning, and meets the needs of all learners.

Key strategies include:

- **Inquiry-Centred Curriculum**: Our curriculum follows the National Curriculum for science and is built around enquiry-led learning. It is carefully structured to ensure progression of knowledge and skills as pupils move through the school.
- **Practical, Hands-on Science**: We prioritise practical investigations, allowing children to explore scientific concepts through experiments and activities. These experiences enable children to ask questions, make predictions, and draw conclusions based on evidence.
- **Cross-Curricular Connections**: Where appropriate, science is linked with other curriculum areas such as Maths, Art, Geography, and English. This enriches learning and helps children make meaningful connections across subjects.
- **Staff Development**: We provide ongoing professional development for staff to ensure confidence and consistency in the delivery of science teaching. Staff stay informed about best practices and new developments in science education.
- **Partnerships and Enrichment**: We work with local experts, organisations, and the wider community to enhance the science curriculum. This includes trips, workshops, visitors, and themed days that bring science to life and widen children's understanding.

Impact

The success of our science curriculum is monitored through both formative and summative assessments, as well as feedback from pupils, staff, and parents.

We evaluate impact in the following ways:

- **Progress and Attainment**: Pupil progress is tracked through assessments and teacher judgements against curriculum objectives. This data helps us identify next steps and tailor support for individuals or groups.

- **Engagement and Enjoyment**: We monitor pupil attitudes to science through observation, discussion, and pupil voice. Children at Shipham are excited to learn science and actively participate in lessons and enrichment opportunities.
- **Application of Scientific Skills**: We assess how well children apply skills such as predicting, observing, recording, and evaluating during practical investigations. Evidence of this is seen in their workbooks, presentations, and classroom dialogue.
- **Parental and Community Involvement**: Through science-focused events such as family science days, parent workshops, and community links, we foster a shared enthusiasm for science and strengthen home-school partnerships.

In summary, science at Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School is designed to nurture confident, curious learners who are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to thrive in an ever-changing world. Our thoughtful, inquiry-driven approach ensures that all children are supported to reach their full potential and develop a genuine appreciation for the wonders of science.