



West Byfleet Infant School  
*We Belong, Inspire, Succeed*



## Science Policy

Our school vision is 'We Belong, Inspire, Succeed'. This reminds us daily that children need to feel safe and secure within the school community, have opportunities to inspire their interests and an enthusiasm for learning, as well as achieving success at all levels.

The National Curriculum 2014 states why we teach Science in schools: 'A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena.'

Member of staff responsible	Victoria Geaves
Date Policy Produced	October 2024
Policy agreed/last reviewed	January 2023
Next review date	September 2025
Other Related Policies	
Is it a Statutory Policy?	Yes
Does it need Governor approval?	No - Headteacher

## **West Byfleet Infant School** **Science Policy 2024-2025**

The National Curriculum 2014 states why we teach Science in schools: 'A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena.'

### **Aims:**

1. To build on a child's natural curiosity and develops a scientific approach to problems
2. Provide practical experiences to develop children's understanding of scientific skills and ideas
3. Encourage children to ask and answer scientific questions
4. Give children the experience of scientific processes
5. Develop a positive attitude towards Science
6. To nurture a sense of awe and wonder for our world.

### **Teaching and Learning**

At West Byfleet Infant School, we believe Science should be fun, inspiring and practical where possible. Each year group covers a wide range of Science-related subjects throughout the year. In Reception, this is covered in the area of learning called 'Understanding the World' and, in Key Stage One through the specific coverage in the National Curriculum areas for both Year 1 and 2. We offer a wide variety of learning activities and experiences that build resilience, confidence and self-esteem in the children. Children learn through practical, first hand experiences and where appropriate secondary sources such as books and IT. Where appropriate, we use Cornerstones projects to help us plan engaging, high-quality lessons to help challenge and stretch every child. With help and guidance, the children record and communicate their findings in a range of ways and show that they are beginning to use age appropriate scientific language. Our Science curriculum combines knowledge and development of 'working scientifically' skills to create a purposeful and exciting learning journey for each child as we want all children to 'know more and remember more'.

### **Assessment:**

Children should be involved with their learning and assessments on a regular basis. These assessments will be completed once a half term linked to the learning objectives that have been taught via concept maps.

### **Reporting to parents:**

Teachers give termly reports to parents detailing whether their child is on track or not on track to meet end of year expectations. Teachers are always available for informal chats to talk about children's progress to parents. At the end of Key Stage 1 assessment levels are sent to Surrey County Council and shared with parents.

### **Health and Safety**

At West Byfleet Infant School, children are regularly engaged in practical activities. In order to minimise hazards, health and safety guidelines must be followed. Teachers and Support Staff should read the Health and Safety policy. Children should be taught to recognise that there are hazards in living things, materials and physical processes. They should be taught to assess risks and take action to reduce any risks to themselves or others. Teachers will use the CLEAPSS website to help with risk assessments.

### **Learning**

At West Byfleet Infant School, we aim to teach high quality Science;

- at least once a week for at least 2 hours
- through first hand experiences and where appropriate secondary sources such as books and IT (Internet search engines)
- around enquiry based questioning

As a school, we also plan and deliver an exciting and engaging Science Week which allow children to explore other areas of Science which are additional to the content covered in their lessons. Workshops and assemblies are also arranged on a termly basis to maintain the awe and wonder Science can create.

### **Recording**

At West Byfleet Infant School, we believe Science where possible should be fun, engaging and practical. Therefore, pictures and videos are a good way to record any investigations with the teacher recording it on Tapestry. In Reception this can be recorded on Tapestry and use of Discovery floor books. In Key Stage 1 each child has their own Science book to record in. Each class also has their own Science floor book to record each lesson in which the children have access too. Where possible the teacher needs to follow the school's marking policy and purple pen the child's ideas and thoughts if the child is unable to write them down themselves. With help, the children should record and communicate their findings in a range of ways and show that they are beginning to use simple scientific language.

### **Resources**

Resources for teaching the key concepts and skills of Science are kept on the resource shelves. A list of what is inside each box is on the outside.