

# Newton Solney School

## Science Policy

### Introduction

Science is a highly important subject in the children's curriculum. Science makes an increasing contribution to all aspects of life and children are naturally fascinated by everything in this world. Science teaching is necessary to enrich their inquisitive minds and contribute towards their understanding of our world.

### Our Aims in Teaching Science

- To teach the children scientific skills.
- To teach the children scientific knowledge and concepts.
- To build on our children's natural curiosity.
- To encourage investigations and questioning skills.
- To promote responsibility and independence.
- To encourage a positive attitude towards Science and a willingness to co-operate with one another.
- To ensure the Science curriculum is accessible for all.

### The Teaching of Science

Newton Solney Infant School will deliver Science to all pupils, ensuring a progression of knowledge and skills throughout the school.

Approximately one and a half hours per week are spent on Science teaching. Science is taught through a topic approach and Forest Schools. Therefore it is difficult to estimate the exact time spent on Science teaching.

We base our teaching on the National Curriculum 2014 programme of study and EYFS.

### Teaching Methods

Year 1 and 2 plan from topics on a two- year cycle. We ensure that each area of the Science programme of study is visited over the two years. Due to combined year groups the planning is differentiated appropriately.

Cross – curricular links are also established where appropriate through our creative curriculum and through Forest Schools.

Children will also be using and developing their Science vocabulary and language through – talking, listening, reading and writing.

Pupils will be given the opportunity, where appropriate, to develop their ICT skills in their Science work.

Each year during the Summer term a whole school Science day takes place. Children have the opportunity to work with a variety of ages and abilities on focused Science activities.

We feel that the best way to learn Science is through a mixture of 'hands on' experience, observations and class teaching. We balance practical work with discussions that help children to make sense of their experiences and question their results.

Appropriate educational visits are attended and planned activities completed in consultation with outside agencies.

Reception children have access to a freeflow system which allows them access to the natural world and opportunities to explore and be enthused by our world.

Reception and Year 1 children attend Forest School once a week. Year 2 get the opportunity to attend special Forest School sessions during the year.

### Resources

The majority of Science resources are kept in a labelled storage boxes in the Green room. Staff books, information and photo-copiable worksheets are also available.

The Science computer programs are kept centrally and children have access to computer tablets.

### Equal Opportunities

Every effort is made to ensure Science activities and investigations are equally interesting and accessible for all. Our aim is to meet the needs of all pupils.

Children of all abilities can benefit from the study of Science. Those with special needs receive the appropriate support and resources required. More challenging work is provided for the more able.

### Safety

The safe use of Science equipment is promoted at all times and we accept a responsibility to plan safe activities. Children are taught in a structured way and are expected to behave in a responsible manner.

### Assessment Reporting and Record Keeping

Please refer to the ARRA policy.

### Role of the Science Co-ordinator

Davinia Gamble as the Science co-ordinator encourages and supports colleagues in their teaching of Science. She attends relevant courses and passes on necessary information. She ensures that the policy is implemented, used and reviewed and that the required Science resources are provided. Lessons are monitored and evaluated each year by the co-ordinator.

## Policy Review

This policy was reviewed and amended in February 2018 and approved by the governors Teaching and Learning Committee in March 2018.

Davinia Gamble.