

RAMSEY MANOR LOWER SCHOOL **SCIENCE POLICY**

Ramsey Manor Lower School is a Values Education School where our Values underpin everything we do.

We are committed to safeguarding children and providing a safe and healthy environment for all to learn and grow.

STATUS: Discretionary

DATE ADOPTED: March 2014

Policy agreed by staff: RS date: May 2019

Date of next review: March 2022

RATIONALE

At Ramsey Manor Lower School we believe that, regardless of ability, ethnicity, gender, beliefs or personal circumstance, Science develops children's understanding of the world in which they live.

AIMS

At Ramsey Manor Lower School we aim to ensure that all pupils:

- 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 knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future

IMPLEMENTATION

Through the teaching of Science the children will develop a sense of excitement about the world around them and curiosity about natural phenomena. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts the children will be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes. During our lessons we encourage children to work scientifically so they will be able to identify the correct enquiry to use (for example fair test, observing over time, pattern seeking). Whole class teaching is followed up with work in groups, with partners or individually to complete tasks they have learned or are developing. Wherever possible teachers provide equal access to the Science curriculum by differentiating appropriately for all children, which includes supporting less able children and extending the more able.

Commented [ES1]: Delete as all children are being challenged according to their ability.

INCLUSION

We aim to provide for all children so that they achieve as highly as they can in Science according to their individual abilities. We will identify which pupils or groups of pupils are under-achieving and take steps to improve their attainment (as detailed in our Inclusion policy). More able children will be identified and suitable learning challenges provided.

Commented [ES2]: Is this needed? This is all detailed in the inclusion policy.

RESOURCES

Children are taught how to use the equipment appropriately and independently. They will have access to a range of well organised, clearly labeled scientific resources to develop the ability to select the appropriate tools for a task. Teachers use a diverse range of resource material to cater for all the needs of the children. Opportunities to use ICT to support teaching and learning in Science will be planned for and used as appropriate.

CURRICULUM PLANNING

The Science Curriculum is planned and taught using the National Curriculum, except in Reception, where Science is taught using the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Wherever possible links will be made through our 'Creative Curriculum' approach to teaching and learning.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The principles of Assessment For Learning (AFL) underpin our methods for formal and informal assessment. Effective assessment will be achieved by;

- marking of written work and formal assessment tasks
- teacher observation whilst children are engaged in a practical activity, to assess whether particular skills are being used
- on-the-spot comments by the teacher to a group or individual, to extend, limit or change direction of the given task
- pupils are to be given the opportunity to assess their own work, and the work of their peers. e.g. Thumbs up, traffic light system
- discussions with the child, group or class
- teachers will make notes to identify children who exceed or do not meet objectives
- teacher observations and assessments are recorded on Target Tracker so that pupil progress can be monitored

Formal and informal meetings are held with parents/carers throughout the year to discuss progress.

CURRICULUM LINKS

Science is a core subject in the 2014 National Curriculum. In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) the teachers follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Our 'Creative Curriculum' approach allows us to teach and apply scientific skills across all subjects. Teachers take advantage of opportunities to make cross curricular links.

Commented [ES3]: Delete and insert – Science is taught in the Early Years Foundation Stage through the strand of Understanding The World.

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LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

Teaching and Learning Policy
Assessment Policy
SEND Policy
Inclusion Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy
Health and Safety Policy
Marking Policy
All other Curriculum Policies