March 2025 -March 2028

Bishop Monkton Church of England School
Science Policy

Rationale

At Bishop Monkton School we aim to foster inquisitive, curious minds and to encourage children to explore, investigate and ask questions about life, our world and the universe. We are passionate about bringing Science alive for children through outdoor learning, investigations, Science days, trips and technology. It is our intent that children leave Bishop Monkton School with a broad and deep understanding of key areas of Science including how to work scientifically and safely. We also wish to promote the importance of asking thoughtful questions and being proactive in finding answers through investigation and exploration.

The Science curriculum encompasses the acquisition of knowledge and skills and aims to build on children's understanding year after year as pupils move through the school. Key areas of learning are repeatedly and systematically revisited so that knowledge and understanding is embedded and children are given the opportunity to develop a range of skills. The curriculum covers all areas of the National Curriculum, as well as including some additional units based on pupils' interests as well as national significance.

Aims

We aim to:

- Deliver the Science Programmes of Study of the 2014 National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 and 2 and 'Understanding the World' through the Development Matters 2021 document for EYFS.
- To promote learning through a wide variety of teaching and learning styles.
- To develop 'working scientifically' skills through relevant practical tasks.
- To promote positive attitudes and foster a love of learning for science.

Guidelines

1. Science will be taught according to the needs, maturity and ability of each child.
2. Long term planning for science will be based on the National Curriculum 2014 and complemented, where relevant, by the North Yorkshire schemes of learning and Knowledge Organisers.
3. Medium term planning will take the form of Knowledge Organisers. Teachers will use these to introduce a unit of work and to plan their lessons.
4. The assessment of knowledge and working scientifically skills will take place formally at the start and end of a unit of work using the Knowledge Organiser quiz. As well as this, teachers are encouraged to assess using a range of methods suited to their class and age range. Teachers will use the evidence and assessment gathered to complete an end of unit assessment in the assessment files.
5. Science will usually be taught by the class teacher, but visits and visitors are actively encouraged.
6. Health and Safety is an important consideration when conducting practical Science. The North Yorkshire guidelines for safety (ASE "Be Safe" 4th edition) will be followed. The importance of dynamic risk assessment considering both the task and pupils is essential practise.
7. Pupils will often be organised into small groups and encouraged to work co-operatively for science work. The group size will be determined by the age, task and ability of the pupils. Children will be encouraged to formulate ideas and concepts through extended discussion and evaluation.

8. A wide range of teaching and learning styles will be used, including the National Curriculum 2014 'five types of enquiry': observation over time, identifying and classifying, pattern seeking, research, comparative and fair testing.
9. Pupils will be taught to use a wide range of appropriate recording methods, which will include the use of modern technologies at both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.
10. Where relevant cross curriculum learning should be encouraged.
11. Resources appropriate to each class should be available in the DT room for all classes to access.
12. Equal opportunities in science will be given to all pupils. (See equal opportunities policy).
13. Science learning and skills development in EYFS will natural occur throughout the teaching day. Talk aboout seasons changing, plants growing, playing with forces, light and dark, children learning to use technology or even liquid spilling all create science learning opportunties.

Signed: Headteacher _____

Signed: Chair of Governors _____

Date: March 2025

Review Date: March 2028