

Cecil Gowing Infant School Science Policy



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Approved by Governors: 1.11.16
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SignedI. Stubbs Date 1.11.16
Headteacher

Signed.....Fiona Hardman Date 1.11.16
Chair of Governors

AIMS AND VALUES OF THE SCHOOL



INSPIRING IMAGINATIONS

We believe

children are active participants in their learning who:

- want to explore and learn about the world around them;
- enjoy being creative;
- are happy when they are encouraged to succeed and know that their best efforts are highly valued;
- need to feel part of a community;
- need to feel valued as individuals.

adults help children with happy successful learning when they:

- respect and value children as individuals;
- lead by example;
- work together as a team;
- nurture and guide children in a calm atmosphere;
- see themselves as learners too;
- expect children to succeed.

Our school community, of adults and children (including their parents and carers), is one in which each member is valued for his or her unique contribution to the happiness and success of us all. We believe that it is important to understand the need to respect people's cultures and customs and we do not tolerate any form of racist behaviour. In our community all the members are active learners and we expect them to achieve to the full extent of their ability.

Our Philosophy

- For children in our school to become confident independent learners
- For children to be engaged and interested in their learning and follow this up at home with their families
- For children to follow a drama based curriculum which includes Mantle of the Expert
- For children to learn and be inquisitive about the world around them
- For children to find ways of asking and answering questions themselves
- Begin to understand the process of scientific enquiry

This is what a science lesson looks like in Cecil Gowing Infant School

Throughout the school:

- The children use practical resources when appropriate
- Children are encouraged to ask questions to deepen their understanding
- Children carry out experiments to understand the scientific process and to answer questions they have
- Children explore scientific enquiry and develop understanding of scientific vocabulary

In a Reception Class:

- Children learn through play and exploration
- Children are encouraged to use simple scientific vocabulary
- Children experience outdoor learning
- Children explore through the investigation table to prompt their interest and deepen their inquisitive learning

In a Year One Class:

- Children learn through play and exploration
- Children are encouraged to use simple scientific vocabulary
- Children experience outdoor learning
- Children carry out simple scientific investigations and are encouraged to find the answer to questions through exploration
- Children learn about common plants, animals, everyday materials and seasonal changes

In a Year Two Class:

- Children learn through exploration and following a line of enquiry
- Children carry out simple investigations and are encouraged to ask questions and discuss their findings
- Children are encouraged to use scientific language when appropriate and develop their understanding of fair testing.
- Children learn about habitats, common plants, animals and everyday materials.

This is what we do

Children in Reception follow the EYFS curriculum

Children in Key Stage One follow the National Curriculum

Both these curriculums have been developed to meet the needs of the children in our school and to inspire them in their learning.

Our curriculum maps for each year group are on our school website within 'Parent Information'. These show in detail what the children are learning each half term and provide ideas for parents to support their child's learning at home.

Every adult in our school has the opportunity to strengthen and broaden their own subject knowledge.

This is how we know how well our children are doing

In Reception:

- Observations
- Learning Journeys

Key Stage One:

- Individual foundation books which evidence each child's progress and attainment of specific subjects
- Formative assessment
- Pupil Progress meetings
- Subject leader meetings

This is how we use intervention:

We use intervention to consolidate learning, support gaps in learning and provide appropriate challenge to meet the needs of every child in our school.

This is delivered by:

- Immediate support throughout the lesson when appropriate.
- Small group intervention.
- One to one support when appropriate
- Peer to peer learning

How do we challenge the most able children?

- Deepen their understanding through questioning
- Provide opportunities for them to explore the subject at a deeper level
- Use what they know to find out what they do not know
- Strengthen their independence in learning

This is the impact of our teaching:

- Every child experiences a broad and balanced curriculum
- Every child is challenged appropriately
- Every child achieves to the best of their ability

- Every child is prepared for the next step in their journey of learning