Science at Monken Hadley School

Intent

At Monken Hadley School, our vision is to inspire every child to become a curious and confident scientist. As part of our Curiosity Curriculum, we aim to develop children's natural sense of wonder about the world around them and help them understand how science shapes our lives.

We want science lessons to follow the let's approach that underpins our curiosity curriculum, be practical, engaging and memorable, as well as building children's knowledge and skills year by year. Through investigation, discussion and exploration, we encourage children to ask questions, think critically and develop a lifelong interest in science.

Our science curriculum is guided by the following principles:

Instil Curiosity

We encourage children to wonder, explore and discover. Scientific learning begins with curiosity, and we nurture this at every opportunity.

No Fear

We believe children learn best when they are willing to take risks, test ideas and learn from mistakes. We create a supportive environment where all children feel confident to have a go.

Scientific Language

Children are taught to use accurate scientific vocabulary and communicate their ideas clearly, helping them to think and talk like scientists.

Practical Learning

Wherever possible, science is taught through hands-on experiences, investigations and experiments that bring learning to life.

Questioning and Enquiry

Children are encouraged to ask questions, make predictions and think about how they can test their ideas using scientific methods.

Research and Inspiration

Children learn about a diverse range of scientists, both past and present, helping them to see the real-world impact of science and the opportunities it can provide.

Exploring the Outdoors

We make use of our school grounds and local environment to provide meaningful opportunities for observation, investigation and discovery.

Through these experiences, we aim to develop children's scientific knowledge, understanding and skills, while fostering a belief that they can become the scientists, engineers, researchers and innovators of the future.

Implementation

Science is taught using on a two-year rolling programme. Lessons are planned around the **Let's approach** to learning which we use at Monken Hadley School in all subjects. Our units of work are carefully planned to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum within our mixed-age classes.

We ensure that:

- Learning builds progressively on prior knowledge and skills, enabling children to deepen their understanding over time.
- Children develop their scientific enquiry skills through questioning, predicting, observing, investigating, recording and evaluating.
- Children communicate their learning using scientific vocabulary, diagrams, observations and conclusions.
- Regular opportunities are provided to revisit previous learning, helping children to know more and remember more.
- Teachers receive ongoing professional development and moderation opportunities to maintain high levels of subject knowledge and consistency across the school.
- Educational visits, visitors and enrichment opportunities enhance learning and help children make meaningful connections between science and the wider world.
- Assessment for learning is used effectively throughout lessons to identify and address misconceptions, ensuring all children make progress.
- Learning is adapted and scaffolded where necessary so that every child can access and succeed within the science curriculum.

Impact

By the time children leave Monken Hadley School, they will have developed a secure understanding of scientific concepts and the skills needed to work scientifically. They will be able to ask thoughtful questions, carry out investigations, analyse evidence and communicate their ideas with confidence.

Most importantly, they will leave with a sense of curiosity about the world, an appreciation of the role of science in everyday life and the confidence to continue exploring, questioning and learning.