



Intent

At Vale school we recognise that Science is a practical way for children to find out about the world around them. Our Science curriculum focuses on developing curiosity, looking and listening, fostering good communication and learning with others. It has been designed to help children make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment. We have ensured that the topics covered in our Science curriculum expose children to a range of resources, approaches and outcomes and support them to communicate their learning with others. Our curriculum also enables our children to practice skills and to build on each lesson. For our Engagement and Sensory learners, our curriculum aims to develop and stimulate their attention, imagination and interest in the world around them.

Implementation

Our science lessons involve exciting and practical hands-on experiences that encourage curiosity and questioning in our children. This hands-on approach to Science activities encourages our children to actively explore and make connections in a cause-and-effect manner, allowing them to practice, anticipate and embed understanding and knowledge during their learning journey with us. The level of support, the pace and resources support our individual learners to achieve to the best of their ability. The topic cycle enables our children to find out about objects, materials and living things using all of their senses and by looking at similarities, differences, patterns and changes. Both the environment and skilled practitioners foster curiosity and encourage explorative play. Children are motivated to ask questions about why things happen and how things work. Our children use their natural outdoor environment to explore minibeasts and their habitats, plants and animals and observe the changing seasons. Children regularly participate in cookery and baking sessions which allows them to experience changes in state as ingredients are mixed, heated and cooled.

Understanding of the world enables our children to communicate and interact with the appropriate levels of support and explore what they want to do, increasing physical mobility and dexterity, gaining a sense of predictability, sharing with others and finishing an activity. Our Engagement and Sensory learners learn through using sensory stories and access to specific learning activities that promote pupil involvement and choices in using equipment and wanting 'more' or 'finished'.

Impact

As a result of the provision above, children at Vale School will be the best they can be and:

- demonstrate a love of science
- have a curiosity about the world around them
- have a sense of awe and excitement for natural phenomena
- have developed practical skills needed to investigate and experiment when working alone and collaboratively with others
- will know more, remember more and understand more science skills and science knowledge taught
- make connections between what they have previously learned and what they are currently learning within a real-life context.
- will have language that allows them to describe the world around them
- be able to question ideas and reflect on knowledge.

This is evidenced through: science assessments, observations and learning walks, work books and Tapestry entries, cognition and learning PSP targets; identifying meeting of related EHCP outcomes and any other relevant methods.