



Brize Norton Primary School

Science Policy

We **SHINE** for ourselves and each other
Striving, Helping, Inspiring, Nurturing, Excelling

Policy adopted by Governors on:	Date for Review:	Signed by Chair of Governors:
June 2023	June 2026	

Definition

At Brize Norton Primary School we want our children to be naturally curious about the world around them. Our curriculum has been developed to ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum. Science is a way of working that allows children, through practical first hand experiences and secondary sources, to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world in which they live. These experiences should enable children to observe, question, investigate, make sense of and communicate and evaluate their findings.

Aims

Here at Brize Norton Primary we want all our children to SHINE: Strive, Help, Inspire, Nurture, Excel, through all curriculum areas as well as personally. Through our Science curriculum we want to encourage children to:

- develop a questioning and reflective mind by providing a range of exciting and enjoyable activities.
- develop a systematic and logical way of working.
- apply their skills and knowledge to investigative work.
- come to a deepening understanding of scientific concepts.
- work safely and carefully.
- SHINE within all aspects of the science curriculum

Curriculum Intent

In Science we aim to give all children a strong understanding of the world around them. They are able to discover how the world works and our place, impact, roles and responsibilities within our environment. Our children are encouraged to ask questions and apply their growing scientific knowledge to investigate and learn more. The children are able to develop a systematic and logical way of working and are able to reflect on investigations and apply their growing knowledge. Science allows children to be inquisitive in a safe environment. It will help develop knowledge rich, confident, articulate and investigative learners.

Teaching and Learning – Implementation

All children have access to the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and Science National Curriculum. Although the majority of our wider curriculum at Brize Norton Primary is delivered within a 3 year cycle due to our split classes, we use a long term Science curriculum plan which is delivered annually. All children learn the skills progressively year-on-year, from the Skills Progression. The topics are studied each year with teachers teaching the relevant skills for their classes through these topics. Each year, for 3 years, topics are revisited for depth of, and progression within learning but through a different lens each time. Depending on the year group split will depend on the emphasis of coverage. Planning is monitored to ensure progression for learners year on year. Each long term we also hold a Science Focus day. These focus days may consist of a Year specific focus, such as Rocks in year 3, or they may have a working scientifically focus which enriches the children's knowledge of a revisited topic whilst focusing on their working scientifically skills. Scientific vocabulary is to be taught with each unit of work to enable children to articulate scientific concepts clearly and precisely. The teaching of Science at Brize Norton Primary may be as a whole class, year group, in small groups or individual work. Where possible, we take our learning outside.

Curriculum Enrichment

We are developing our enrichment opportunities so that children have access to a wide range of educational experiences outside of school through trips and links with Oxford Science. We celebrate national Big Science Week in March and invite visitors, speakers, companies leading workshops in order to inspire learning. We work closely with our local secondary schools, allowing children to gain from their expertise.

Working Scientifically

Working Scientifically must always be taught through and clearly related to the programme of study. Pupils at Brize Norton Primary, learn to use a variety of approaches to answer relevant scientific questions by collecting, analysing and presenting their findings throughout the topics and through Science Focus Days. Each year, we have a term dedicated to Working Scientifically, which coincides with Big Science Week where we take part in the Big Science Event within Oxfordshire, giving children a purpose.

Through working scientifically throughout the year, children will use different types of enquiry:

- Make observe over time
- Classifying and grouping
- Pattern seeking
- Comparative and fair test
- Research and secondary sources

Equal opportunities

All children at Brize Norton Primary are given equal opportunities in all areas of Science. We monitor the attainment and engagement of all groups of children to ensure there are no patterns of attainment causing concern.

Progression

We recognise that our curriculum planning must allow for children to gain a progressively deeper level of knowledge, understanding and skill competency as they move throughout the school. Our Science plans are progressive and enable teachers to adjust plans to meet the particular needs of individuals or groups of children.

Computing

We see Computing as an important tool in Science. Children research, communicate, collect and interrogate data in a variety of ways. This is detailed in teachers' medium term planning.

Safety

It is important that children are taught the rules of safety when undertaking experiments and investigations. Materials and equipment need to be handled sensibly and we try to ensure that children do this. It is the teacher's responsibility to make sure that all helpers (TAs, parents etc.) are aware of safety implications connected with any Science activity they are undertaking. Risk Assessments are always written, where necessary, in an area or lesson which requires one.

Records and Assessment - Impact

Assessment of children's development is made through a combination of end of unit assessments, ongoing teacher assessment, formal tasks and year tests where appropriate. A record is kept of children's achievements in Science including 'Working Scientifically' through teacher's own notes and our school record system. Progress and achievement in Science is reported to parents through end of year reports and during autumn and spring parent meetings.

Monitoring - Impact

The Science curriculum is monitored by the science co-ordinator through staff meetings, observation of teaching, monitoring of medium term plans, children's work, pupil voice and analysis of data.