The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School

Following Jesus,
The Good Shepherd,
in all we say and do

Our Science Curriculum

OUR LADY IMMACULATE
CATHOLIC ACADEMIES TRUST

Curriculum Intent – Science

At The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School, our children are SCIENTISTS!

Our intent is to give every child a broad and balanced Science curriculum which enables them to confidently explore and discover what is around them, so that they have a deeper understanding of the world we live in.

We want our children to love science. We want them to have no limits to what their ambitions are and grow up wanting to be astronauts, forensic scientists, toxicologists or microbiologists.

To achieve this, it involves exciting, practical hands on experiences that encourage curiosity and questioning. Our aim is that these stimulating and challenging experiences help every child secure and extend their scientific knowledge and vocabulary, as well as promoting a love and thirst for learning.

We want our children to remember their science lessons in our school, to cherish these memories and embrace the scientific opportunities they are presented with!

At The Good Shepherd we are studying CUSP science. Through this, pupils become more expert as they progress through the curriculum, accumulating, connecting and making sense of the rich substantive and disciplinary knowledge.

Substantive knowledge - this is the subject knowledge and explicit vocabulary used to learn about the content. Common misconceptions are explicitly revealed as non-examples and positioned against known and accurate content. In CUSP science, an extensive and connected knowledge base is constructed so that pupils can use these foundations and integrate it with what they already know. Misconceptions are challenged carefully and in the context of the substantive and disciplinary knowledge. In CUSP Science, it is recommended that misconceptions are not introduced too early, as pupils need to construct a mental model in which to position that new knowledge.

Disciplinary knowledge – this is knowing how to collect, use, interpret, understand and evaluate the evidence from scientific processes. This is taught.

Scientific analysis is developed through IPROF criteria. We call it '**Thinking Scientifically**.'

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- identifying and classifying
- pattern seeking
- research
- observing over time
- fair and comparative testing
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'The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers; they are the one who asks the right questions.'
Claude Levi-Strauss