



The Waterside Way – Science Curriculum

Intent, Implementation and Impact

INTENT	IMPLEMENTATION	IMPACT
<p>At Waterside Primary Academy, our intent is to ignite a passion for science in children, fostering a sense of wonder about the world around them. Through engaging hands-on learning experiences, we aim to inspire curiosity and encourage our students to ask questions. Our approach focuses on equipping them with the skills to seek answers through experimentation and research.</p> <p>Aligned with the national curriculum, our progressive content ensures that learning is scaffolded year on year, allowing children to build upon their knowledge and understanding. We place emphasis on the development of scientific enquiry skills such as observation, pattern recognition, and data handling. By following a carefully structured progression of skills, we enable children to take small steps that build their confidence and independence over time.</p> <p>We are dedicated to providing high-quality learning experiences in science. We utilise the Developing Experts scheme alongside other resources to deliver enriching lessons that captivate and inspire our young learners. This scheme not only enhances their scientific knowledge but also nurtures aspirations by highlighting how science skills can be applied in a wide range of career paths.</p> <p>Through exposure to ambitions and scientific vocabulary, we empower our students to communicate like scientists, enabling them to articulate their ideas effectively and record their findings with clarity. By encouraging children to speak and write like scientists, we aim to instil in them a sense of professionalism and precision in their scientific endeavours.</p>	<p>Progressive Design: The whole school science progression and year groups curriculum maps guide the development of medium-term plans. We use Developing Experts to offer a diverse selection of lessons. Developing experts includes a section about careers in science, which fosters ambition and a desire to continue with higher education.</p> <p>Medium-Term Plans: These plans outline the learning questions for each unit, key vocabulary, cross-curricular links, assessment opportunities, and adapted provision to meet all students' individual needs.</p> <p>Prior Learning Checks: All lessons start with prior learning checks. To assist in recall and to strengthen memory, each lesson begins with a quiz on prior learning. We encourage children to look back in their books and to use the knowledge organiser to develop their independence. We also remind the children, at the beginning of a new unit, about what they learned in previous years and make explicit links to future learning.</p> <p>Diverse Teaching Approaches: Lessons follow a variety of approaches to challenge and support students' learning without limits. We strike a balance between substantive knowledge and enquiry skills. We encourage learning outside of the classroom where appropriate as well as home learning activities. The curriculum is supported by enrichment activities like trips, through visitors and whole science events like Science Week.</p>	<p>Progress Monitoring: We continuously monitor the progress of students. Formative marking and verbal feedback in lessons support children's learning and continuous progress. Children's work and understanding is marked against the learning question. Challenge and correction are provided which the children respond to at the beginning of subsequent lessons. Summative assessment is carried out at the end of each half term by checking against the National Curriculum strands including the Scientific Enquiry skills.</p> <p>High Challenge, Low Stakes Assessments: Assessments are conducted in various styles, such as quizzes, planned questioning, and discussions, offering students high challenges with low stakes.</p> <p>Preparation for the Future: Our curriculum prepares students for educational success, promoting positive learning attitudes and values. Students take pride in their work, demonstrate resilience, celebrate diversity, and show the ability to maintain physical, emotional, and mental well-being in various contexts</p>