

Science

Ormskirk C.E. aims to ensure that all children develop a good knowledge and understanding of all the areas of science. Throughout both keystage one and two the children work in line with the LCP scheme, which is linked QCA. This ensures that the children cover the areas of scientific enquiry, life processes and living things, materials and their properties and physical processes as outlined in the National Curriculum. Each year group also undertakes one investigation per term. This further supports the children in their development of thinking and enquiry skills in science. All year groups use the 'post it' system of investigating which requires the children to fully understand the processes of investigating scientific ideas fairly in ways that will lead to supported conclusions.

I.C.T also plays a role in the children's science curriculum as the children will have opportunities to use computer microscopes, data logging equipment, virtual experiments and other programmes that will enhance their learning experiences in this curriculum area.

Science also supports the children's P.S.H.E education in year 6 as the children undertake sex and relationships sessions in addition to the followed scheme. Year 6 children also undertake sessions on drug education. Both of these topics support their scientific knowledge and understanding of life processes and living things in addition to developing areas of P.S.H.E.

Ormskirk C of E is also a member of TOBA, a network learning community, which has used science as a vehicle to develop ways of supporting children's different learning styles. A science day involving the network is helping to ensure that the different ways of learning, kinaesthetically, visually and in an audible way, are being planned into the science curriculum. The school believes this will help enable all children to access the curriculum on offer.

Overview of long term science plans

During reception the children study the following topics through the area of *knowledge and understanding of the world*. Through these topics the science concepts are taught.

Autumn Term

1. Ourselves and our family – life cycles
Autumn and seasons – Through Autumn walk, collecting nuts
Harvest – *making soups, using senses changing materials*
2. Families and environments – changing people, how we grow (the physical changes) and our life cycle.
The body joints and movement – songs to do with body!
Senses through Bonfire night activities and Christmas food – changes to cooked food.

Spring term

1. Effects of cold – keeping warm.
Properties of materials and changing state - ice and chocolate melting.
Properties of water and sand - Making ice balloons – looking at the weather.
 2. Investigating materials – forces acting on them, properties of materials.
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Summer Term

1. Growth and change in plants and animals – planting seeds and observing changes around the school grounds.
2. Life cycles - caterpillar to butterfly. Conditions of plants to grow – investigation of the best conditions.

From years one to six the children study science for two hours a week. During each term the science concepts are taught through different topics.