



Intent for Science

The National Curriculum	<p>At Hadleigh Infants and Nursery school we aim to develop the children’s natural curiosity and enhance their interest and knowledge about the scientific world in which they live. They will explore and investigate through first-hand experiences both outdoors and in the classroom, learning to respect and care for the natural world around them.</p>
Barriers for our Children	<p>We have children with a variety of life experiences: children who have seen and done a lot by time they start school and others who have had limited experience beyond the four walls of home. Some children have had a lack of exposure to experiences such as visiting the countryside, zoos, wildlife parks, beaches, streams.</p> <p>There are some time-poor families – children whose parents work long hours and have limited time to spend on days out, time out of the house or to do activities at home which support wider learning such as gardening.</p> <p>We also have some children whose experiences are closely monitored and who are not encouraged to get muddy, wet or explore with independence and autonomy due to worries about their safety. Many children at HINS lack confidence and resilience when exploring and investigating, children may lack a growth mindset approach which limits their ability to access their full potential.</p>
Implementation	<p>We use the school grounds regularly and some visits to the local environment, for example, the woods and country park because we know that this develops children’s awareness of the natural world around them and allows them a variety of first-hand experiences.</p> <p>Many of our school visits have a science focus (Sea-Life Adventure, Barleylands Farm, Call of the Wild) to extend the children’s exposure to cultural experiences. We use special days in school such as Science days, outdoor classroom days or science week to allow children to experience activities that inspire awe and wonder. We give children opportunities to get their hands dirty, get wet and muddy, explore in a safe environment but where they are allowed to take some risks.</p> <p>Video clips and engaging activities will help the children learn about things they can’t experience first-hand. Science will be taught through a combination of stand alone lessons and cross-curricular links where appropriate and ensure the use of reading, writing and maths skills in many lessons.</p>