

Inclusion in Science

Science at our school is designed to be ambitious and accessible for every pupil, ensuring that all children, regardless of background or starting point, can engage with and succeed in scientific learning.

Through the HEP Science Curriculum, we deliver a well-sequenced and knowledge-rich programme that supports all pupils in developing both substantive (knowledge) and disciplinary (enquiry) understanding. Lessons are adapted, not simplified, so that every learner can access the core ideas and progress towards high expectations.

Teachers use a range of inclusive strategies to ensure every child can fully participate in science learning:

- Pre-teaching and vocabulary support: Key words and definitions are introduced and revisited using visuals, actions, and sentence stems (e.g. “Plants need ___ to grow”).
- Concrete and practical experiences: EYFS and KS1 pupils use hands-on resources such as magnifying glasses, torches, and magnets to explore and describe phenomena before moving to abstract explanations.
- Scaffolding and talk frames: Teachers model scientific thinking through structured talk prompts like “I observed that...” or “This happened because...”, supporting pupils with EAL and lower literacy confidence.
- Visual and contextual support: Diagrams, videos, and real-life examples (such as melting chocolate or observing shadows) help all pupils understand key processes.
- Targeted adult support: Teaching assistants guide small groups during investigations, ensuring pupils with SEND can participate independently and safely.
- Peer collaboration: Mixed-ability group work encourages cooperation, shared language, and confidence in expressing ideas.

Teachers regularly use formative assessment and observation to identify barriers and adapt lessons accordingly. Pupils with SEND, EAL, or those who are disadvantaged receive additional support through targeted vocabulary sessions, retrieval practice, or adapted recording methods such as drawings or voice notes.

Every pupil is encouraged to take part in practical enquiry and contribute their ideas. Science is a subject where every child can achieve success, build confidence, and feel valued as a thinker and problem-solver.