



FACT

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Fairchildes Academy Community Trust (FACT)

Science Policy

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Science across the Trust develops curiosity, logical thinking and an understanding of the world. Teaching encourages children to ask questions, test ideas, analyse evidence and respect the environment. All schools follow the National Curriculum 2014, ensuring progression in biology, chemistry and physics. Science learning is practical, engaging and relevant to pupils' lives, enabling them to recognise the importance of science locally, nationally and globally.

Aims and Objectives

Our shared aims are to provide high-quality science teaching that builds secure knowledge, strong enquiry skills and positive attitudes. Pupils are encouraged to:

- Make observations and ask scientifically testable questions.
- Plan, carry out and evaluate investigations using safe, appropriate methods.
- Record findings through drawings, tables, graphs, writing and digital tools.
- Communicate ideas clearly using accurate scientific vocabulary.
- Recognise patterns, test predictions and evaluate evidence.
- Understand how science links to technology, health, the environment and wider society.
- We aim for all children to enjoy science and think confidently and creatively as young scientists.

Teaching and Learning

Science lessons are practical and enquiry-led, offering as much first-hand experience as possible. EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils receive approximately one hour of science weekly; Key Stage 2 pupils receive two hours. Teaching uses five key activity types:

1. **Investigations** – children plan, test, observe and interpret results.
2. **Illustrative Activities** – teacher-led tasks introducing concepts or skills.
3. **Explore and Discovery** – hands-on experiences to build curiosity and consolidate learning.
4. **Demonstrations/Discussions** – modelling, expert input, or shared explanation to develop understanding.
5. **Research** – using books, digital media and other sources to gather and interpret information.

Outdoor learning, cross-curricular links and ICT (e.g., data logging, digital microscopes) enrich teaching. In the EYFS, science is taught through *Understanding the World*, supporting exploration, observation and early scientific thinking.

Curriculum Planning

All schools will follow a Trust-wide scheme of work ensuring full National Curriculum coverage and clear progression. Topics may link to wider curriculum themes where appropriate. Scientific enquiry (*Working Scientifically*) is embedded throughout all units.

Each school may enhance provision with workshops, visits or partnerships with secondary schools to widen pupils' experiences and take part in annual trust wide science days.

Recording in Science

Science work is recorded in age-appropriate ways, which may include:

- Drawings, diagrams and labelled illustrations
- Written explanations, reports or instructions
- Charts, tables and graphs
- Photographs and annotated work
- Digital recordings or data logs
- Variety in recording allows for understanding of different mediums

Assessment

Assessment is ongoing and informs planning. Teachers use observation, questioning, discussions and recorded work to judge progress. Each term, pupils are assessed against **Expected Standards** as *Working Towards*, *Expected* or *Greater Depth*. End-of-topic assessments capture understanding of both knowledge and enquiry skills. Moderation across schools ensures consistency. At the end of Key Stage 2, teacher assessments are submitted to the Local Authority in line with statutory requirements.

Inclusion

Science is accessible to all pupils regardless of background, ability or language. Tasks are differentiated, and support is provided as needed, including scaffolding for pupils with SEND and opportunities for challenge for higher attainers. Teachers consider vocabulary, resources and recording methods to ensure full participation. All pupils are encouraged to see themselves as capable scientists.

Resources

Each school maintains a range of science equipment, monitored by the STEM Team. Resources are shared, stored safely and replenished as needed. Children are encouraged to choose and handle equipment independently and responsibly. Outdoor spaces and local environments are used to enhance learning.

Enrichment

Trips, visiting specialists and links with local secondary schools help bring science to life and deepen understanding. Activities such as science clubs, projects and Trust-wide science events promote engagement and nurture enthusiasm for the subject.

Health and Safety

Safe practice is essential. Teachers ensure children understand how to use equipment safely and consider the safety of themselves and others during practical work. All activities follow Trust and school Health & Safety policies.