The Oxfordshire Hospital School

Science Curriculum Statement

Science at OHS is about developing pupil's ideas and ways of working that enable them to make sense of the world in which they live through knowledge, investigation and application of scientific skills. At OHS, pupils develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. We look for opportunities to question, suggest, discuss and link scientific ideas together and we aim to enrich the pupils' understanding both within and beyond the syllabus they are following.

Our aims are to:

- Contribute to pupils' experience of a broad and balanced curriculum
- Maintain curriculum continuity, where possible, for long-stay or regular attending pupils
- Offer GCSE and other opportunities for accreditation
- Provide opportunities for pupils to review, reinforce and extend subject specific skills and knowledge
- Prepare pupils for life in an increasingly scientific and technological world
- Teach pupils to think critically and form conclusions based on observations and evidence
- Foster concern about, and active care for, our environment
- Help pupils acquire a growing understanding of scientific ideas and to express these using scientific vocabulary
- Help develop and extend pupil's scientific concept of their world
- Develop pupils' understanding of the international and collaborative nature of Science.
- Contribute to pupils' personal, social; moral, spiritual and cultural; social and emotional development

Through a bespoke curriculum, closely aligned with that of the enrolled school, pupils at OHS will:

a) Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
b) Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science, through different types of scientific enquiry that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
c) Develop and learn to apply observational, practical, modelling, enquiry, problem-solving skills and mathematical skills
d) Develop their ability to evaluate claims based on science through critical analysis of the methodology, evidence and conclusions, both qualitatively and quantitatively

Scientific Skills

Where possible, we offer pupils the opportunity to carry out practical experiments and investigations and our aims include:

- Giving pupils an understanding of scientific processes
- Helping pupils to acquire practical scientific skills as far as possible, given the nature of delivering Science in a hospital environment
- Developing the skills of investigation - including observing, measuring, predicting, hypothesising, experimenting, communicating, interpreting, explaining and evaluating
- Developing the use of scientific language, recording and techniques
- Developing the use of ICT in investigating and recording
- Enabling pupils to become effective communicators of scientific ideas, facts and data.