

Science Curriculum Intent Statement

<u>Intent – What are we trying to achieve?</u>

Our Science curriculum promotes high standards of enquiry to support pupils to gain an interest in the world around them. Our curriculum ensures pupils achieve our intent in Science and across other subjects, ready for their next steps in education or employment.

Learners often arrive with gaps in their basic science knowledge and understanding that others take for granted, often having had negative experiences at mainstream schools.

Students will follow a KS3 pathway, followed by an appropriate qualification in Science, from Entry Level, Level 1, Level 2 or GCSE Science

- Developing an interest in Science
- Allowing students to recognise Science in their everyday lives
- Strengthening key scientific skills including predicting, investigating, drawing conclusions and forming evaluations
- Experiencing a range of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics from the National Curriculum
- Achieve and succeed in Science

Furthermore, we intend to:

- To develop children's practical maths skills using knowledge of number facts and strategies for problem solving
- To develop the skills and knowledge required for "real life" situations, and promote problem solving and logical thinking
- To use appropriate terminology and scientific language
- To have access to a wide range of resources to enrich and broaden their experience

Implementation – How are we going to do it?

Science is taught in a number of different ways. Students will study a set KS3 curriculum that builds upon prior knowledge from KS2 and develops it further and adds interest and practical, mathematical and evaluative skills. The KS3 curriculum is designed to revisit concepts throughout Year 7 and 8, with a recap focus for the first term of Year 9 before students start their KS4 GCSE studies after Christmas in Year 9. The KS4 students have the

option of studying Science as a Single GCSE (GCSE Biology), as a Double GCSE (Combined Science - Trilogy) or as three individual GCSEs (Triple Science). We encourage most students to study Double GCSE Science as this gives them the best knowledge and skills for further study, and develops their understanding of the world around them. Science enthusiasts are encouraged to complete Triple Science as it has several different interesting topics that students may want to take further in their next steps.

There are four lessons per week for the Core offer of Science, and Triple Science is offered as an option with a further four lessons per week.

A small cohort of students will not be able to access the GCSE curriculum. They will be co taught the Entry Level Curriculum alongside the other students and they will be examined in this.

Impact – How will we know if we are doing well?

Students will leave Riverside Meadows with:

- A Science qualification at a suitable level for their ability
- An understanding of science and a sense of intrigue about the world around them and how things work
- An ability to following a line of enquiry, make relationships and generalisations, develop an argument, justification and proof using scientific language

In addition, we will measure the impact of the Science curriculum through:

- Engagement in lessons
- Children's work
- Formative assessment in lessons
- Student voice
- Application of learning across the curriculum