



Walford Nursery & Primary School Cultural Capital in Science



Spiritual Development

The study of Science involves using evidence to make sense of the world. Science provides a wealth of opportunities for children to develop spiritually. They explore, through the Science curriculum, the wonders of nature, of themselves and of the world around them. Their learning evokes curiosity about the workings of the world, of life itself and of how and why things are the way they are. Science has the ability to make children feel both enormously insignificant (compared to the scale of the visible universe) and enormously significant (humans are genetically unique). They add their scientific knowledge to their consideration of our relationship with the world and explore the interdependence of all living things, considering links between religious and scientific ideas about the world and life itself. Making new discoveries increases children's sense of awe and wonder at the complexities of the natural world. Through Science, children learn to consider and respect different ideas and come to their own conclusions.

Moral Development

Moral decisions are an important aspect of Science. Scientific discoveries and inventions need to be used responsibly and decisions made based on evidence, not prejudice. Through learning about their environment, we encourage our children to question their impact on their planet, both individually and globally for future generations. Exploring everyday materials allows pupils to learn about alternative uses, considering sustainability and thinking about which materials they can recycle. Children are expected to respect the school environment and take responsibility for keeping it tidy, recycling food and materials and not wasting water or energy. Children are also encouraged to consider their responsibility for keeping themselves healthy and the impact that various choices, including diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle, might have on this. They learn how their body functions and they discuss the implications of lifestyle choices on their health.

Social Development

Collaboration and working together in pairs or groups and supporting others is a key part of Science lessons. Children are actively encouraged to listen to different opinions, participate cooperatively and make their own choices. This helps them to develop the ability to take an active role within a group, making suggestions about ways to investigate or research a topic. Throughout any discussions, children are encouraged to explore and respect the values and beliefs of different people. Sharing ideas, data and results is a key principle of scientific enquiry. Science has a major impact on the quality of our lives. In Science lessons, children consider the social impact of science and technology.

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Cultural Development

Children are encouraged, as they learn about science, to consider the uses and impact that scientific discovery has had on our lives, from the everyday objects we use, to energy sources. We consider how scientific knowledge and techniques have changed our lives, from medicine to sustainable resources. Children are helped to understand the importance of creativity and risk-taking when exploring scientific development from around the world.

Children are also given opportunities to understand diversity. They are taught to find and discuss similarities and differences within plants and animals, including humans. Later, they learn about inheritance of characteristics from parents to offspring and how this provides differences between and within communities.

In Science lessons, children explore and celebrate research and developments that take place in many different cultures, both past and present. They explore how scientific discoveries have shaped the beliefs and cultures of the modern world.