

CLOSING THE GAP PROJECT - RAISING ATTAINMENT OF GIRLS IN SCIENCE

BACKGROUND

- Ofsted report in 2013 identified that pupils lack the opportunities to work independently when they might do so
- School Action Plan states that priority is given to Science to ensure that pupils develop progressive skills in this subject.
- Data Analysis of the last Year 4 classes, showed 96% of the pupils achieved expected and above end of year expectations for Science, 30% being girls; and this current Year 4 has risen to 98% overall, 63% being girls.

IMPACT OF THE PROJECT

Improved attainment for girls in Science, supporting the School Action Plan.

Teacher assessment shows current Year 4 girls 63% have achieved expected or above end of year expectations, which is an increase of over 50%.

Pupil perception surveys results indicated that the girls are enjoying Science more due to variety of lessons taught in classes," This is so much fun... I really enjoying seeing how things change."

Other Year groups are seeing a rise in attainment levels of girls.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Pupil Survey to find out what pupils enjoyed about Science & what they would like to see more of.
- Introduction of Science Drop a Days & Thematic lessons taught in classes.
- Continue with 4 part lesson (Context, Show & Tell, Fair Test & Findings)
- Guided Reading sessions focusing on Women in Science
- Class displays showing Women in prominent roles and influence in Science, Space and Engineering.
- CPD Training for Science SLT
- Whole school staff training: focus on questioning for development on children's ideas within science and investigative skills.

READING AND RESEARCH

- Science Subject Leading Update, CPD, 2017
- Teacher Assessment in Primary Science Project, Bath Spa University (2012)
- Questioning in Primary Science, JNC Education, (2012)
- Teacher assessment frameworks at the end of key stage 2, National Curriculum assessment (2018)