Subject Leader FAQs

Name: Lesley Muriss Subject - Science

Question	Answer
1. How long have you been the subject leader?	I have just taken over Science again after a break of a few years!
2. What are your strengths as Science subject leader?	My main strength as Science Subject Leader is my love of the subject and the continuing links with Rickmansworth School to enable high quality provision
3. Give examples of the impact you have had on the quality of teaching and learning/ standards?	At Rickmansworth Park we strive to teach a full and balanced Science curriculum throughout the school. Hopefully, the impact of this on all classes is to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of scientific ideas. As Subject Leader, I scrutinise planning to make sure it shows development and I undertake work scrutinies to look at the quality of work the children are producing. Through pupil voice, the children are able to feedback what they think of Science and the way Science is being taught in the school. I then pass their comments onto colleagues so that their views can help us in our planning and development of Science at Rickmansworth Park. Children's comments are usually very positive – they love that Rickmansworth Park go 'above and beyond' to make sure Science is practical and fun. As Subject Leader, I attend regular CPD to keep up to date with current developments in the curriculum through STEM.
4. What are the key strengths in this subject?	Rickmansworth Park's key strength is our teachers, their subject knowledge and teaching skills. Our enthusiasm for Science throughout the school is evident – from wall displays to class assemblies, work produced in our curriculum books to the STEM Ambassadors we have in to deliver lessons on varied topic such as rocks, space or forces.
5. What areas for development have you identified in this subject?	This year my focus is recording the progression of skills and vocabulary in Science and ensuring they are used effectively in all lessons.
6. How do you know how well pupils are achieving?	Children achieve very well in Science at Rickmansworth Park. Class teachers undertake assessments at the end of a unit of work and results are recorded termly. I examine the data to ensure all children are making expected progress or better. As I mentioned earlier, I am sure the high level of achievement in Science is due to our amazing teachers who spend much time planning exciting and innovative lessons. The positive reactions from the children when they take part in a lesson that inspires them is the best reward for all of us. All staff have regular CPD in different aspects of Science to ensure their knowledge is up-to-date and relevant.
7. How does the school meet the	Children work independently, in pairs or in small groups when

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needs of all groups within this subject?	working in Science. This ensures all children have opportunities to carry out practical work. Writing in Science is much less than it used to be which appeals to children who do not find writing easy. Photographs, diagrams and graphs ensure children are able to demonstrate their knowledge just as efficiently.
8. What knowledge do Governors have about your subject? How have they been involved in your subject?	An annual Science update will be presented to the Governors during their Full Governing Body meetings to explain how we have embedded the new Science Curriculum and how the new Progression of Skills document will benefit staff, parents and Governing body. The Governors are always very interested and will come in for our Curriculum mornings where they can see how Science and other foundation subjects are being taught and class assemblies where finished work is showcased.