

The Intent of our Geography Curriculum

It is the intent of the Geography Curriculum to inspire children's curiosity and interest to explore the world that we live in and its people, by giving the children lots of opportunities to learn about the world in which we live. We want our children to develop a deep understanding of their local environment and the diverse surroundings of the wider world, with appreciation of the human and physical characteristics. This includes the children learning the location of different countries, cities and towns, in the UK and across the world. It includes learning about the human and physical geography of these locations and what it is like to live in these places by making observations, carrying out research, reading graphs and charts and asking questions.

In addition, we aim to provide the children with first-hand experiences of visiting some of the locations they are learning about such as Ribchester, the seaside and the Lake District.

The Implementation of our Geography Curriculum

In Early Years, Geography is taught via the Early Learning Goals linked to the Specific Area 'Understanding the World'. The majority of learning in this area occurs through adult led teaching and activities which is further enhanced in continuous provision. However, during their time in Early Years the children will listen to stories set in different locations, engage in a unit titled 'All About Me' and participate in topic led work about the world they live in.

By the end of Early Years therefore, the children should be able to:

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.

- Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps.

In Years 1 – 6, Geography is taught in a 6-8 lessons, which on average last about an hour each. This timing however is flexible depending on the content being covered and the skills being developed.

To ensure the full coverage of the National Curriculum and progression in skills a Geography progression of skills document has been created. It is organised into five main themes:

- Mapping
- Fieldwork
- Enquiry and Investigation
- Communication and
- Use of ICT/Technology

The Progression in Geography Knowledge document shows how the children will progress in their learning as they move up the school and into Year 6.

This is to ensure that:

- The children remember the long-term content.

- The children understand that they are systematically learning.

- The children can integrate new knowledge into larger concepts.

At the start of each unit, the children are given a Knowledge Organiser which has information about the unit they are learning and a list of key vocabulary and definitions.

The Impact of our Geography Curriculum

Children will have developed the geographical knowledge and skills to help them explore, navigate and understand the world around them and their place in it. Children's knowledge and skills will develop progressively as they move through the school, not only to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum but that they:

- are inspired by the Geography Curriculum and want to learn more.

- show the progression in their skills as well as their knowledge, especially in map reading, compass work and locating places on a map.

- can discuss their learning and remember what they have learnt.

- can talk about their first-hand experiences of visiting different places and locations.

- take responsibility for looking after their environment.