

Geography

Vision Statement

What are we trying to achieve?

Geography is critical to children's understanding and appreciation of the world around them. We aim to develop an interest which enables children to marvel at the beauty of natural landscapes, to understand why our environments are changing, and to appreciate how their actions affect others locally and across the planet.

In the current climate, it is important for children to have a comprehensive global understanding of our world and the people and cultures that inhabit it. Through this understanding, children will develop respect for the physical world and the vast scope of cultures that make up our diverse planet.

We aim to develop the children's interest in a variety of physical and human environments in the wider world by expanding horizons out of the local community. Through a broad curriculum we endeavor to give pupils a very good understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected.

How is subject taught?

Wherever possible, links are made between geography and history topics. Projects may have overarching themes to contextualize and motivate learners; the learning objectives of each lesson draw from geographic and historic knowledge and skills included in the National Curriculum.

Opportunities to use a range of investigative and problem-solving skills inside the classroom will be rooted in each topic area. These skills will be put into practice through:

- use of world maps, atlases, technology (iPads) and globes
- field work (locality and beyond)
- simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational language (e.g. near and far) to describe the location of features and routes on a map
- use of aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key

What difference is the subject making?

Through all phases of learning in school knowledge and skills are being developed and evidenced in other curriculum areas. Feedback from pupils and work sampling in each phase shows a gradual progression of knowledge, skills and understanding of geography. Children can articulate enthusiastically about the topics they are studying and are able to represent this independently in other areas of the curriculum.

SMSC/PSHE links

Through studying the earth's physical features close to home and further afield, children learn to respect the planet as a whole. Children are taught about the importance of being eco-friendly and the damage caused by pollution and the possible dangers of this in the future.

Challenge:

Through the graduate topics children are given opportunities to independently understand the earth's resources and the importance of sustainability.