



The Oaks Primary School
Bringing Learning to Life

Geography Policy

Intent

At The Oaks, we aim to provide a high-quality geography education which inspires in our pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Our pupils will be equipped with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, whilst developing a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. Throughout both key stages, pupils will develop transferable skills including map work and fieldwork, and they will gain an increased awareness of place, space, scale and interdependence, which can be applied to other areas of the curriculum. Our pupils will also understand the importance of their own role as citizens of the future, equipped with the knowledge of a range of environmental issues and inspired by a desire to take care of our planet.

Implementation

The national scheme of work for geography forms the basis of our planning, with adaptations to suit the local circumstances of our school. Our long-term plans map the progression of skills and knowledge to be studied within each year group, whilst medium-term plans cover the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and provide details about each unit of work, including the key knowledge and vocabulary to be taught. These plans are reviewed and modified on a regular basis.

Geography is taught either thematically as part of a project approach, or as a continuing sequence of lessons and activities across the school year at the teacher's discretion. Children are encouraged to make cross-curricular links between different subject areas and as a result, geography is visible in other areas of our wider curriculum, including as part of our assemblies and through stories and in discussions involving sustainability, current affairs and values and responsibilities.

A range of methods, including the use of ICT and digital mapping programs, are used to enable pupils to interpret information, assimilate their knowledge, develop an understanding of patterns and processes and explore geographical relationships. Our pupils are encouraged to ask and answer geographical questions, take part in role-play discussions, and engage in a wide variety of problem-solving activities.

Teachers use appropriate fieldwork, educational visits and activities to extend pupils' knowledge and understanding, widening the range and complexity of the methods of study as they move throughout the key stages. As part of our fieldwork studies, we make use of the local environment wherever possible and encourage children to develop and care for their locality and community.

Assessment:

All pupils from Years 1-6 are assessed against the year group end points set out in our 'Progression of Skills and Knowledge in Geography' document, which is aligned to the National Curriculum objectives for each key stage. In EYFS, pupils are assessed under the prime area of learning 'Understanding the World'.

In addition, regular retrieval practice is carried out in all classes to allow for formative assessment. Tools such as knowledge organisers and low stakes mini quizzes help teachers to assess children's retention of key knowledge and regularly revisit learning from earlier year groups in order to establish a starting point for new learning.

Impact

Children at The Oaks receive a high-quality geography curriculum that equips them with the knowledge and skills they need for the future, the ability to recall and apply their knowledge rapidly and accurately, and an awareness of the planet they live in and their role in maintaining and developing it.