

SCHOOL POLICY FOR GEOGRAPHY

Co-ordinator: P Everington	Buddy:	Date Adopted: Spring 2015	Review by: Spring 2019
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How the Policy developed
 A review of the existing policy.
 All teaching staff present at policy review.

How it relates to the School Development Plan
 This is part of our annual rolling programme of policy review.

- Key Targets for the Period to the Date of the Policy review**
1. Policy to be adopted by staff and Governors.
 2. Monitor books to see coverage and adoption of new 4 year cycle
 3. Resource topic areas
 4. Apply for GA Quality Mark

Tasks	Action Group	Timescale	Cost
Target 1 – Adoption of Policy Target 2 – Resources	Staff and Governors Co-ordinator	Spring 2015 - ongoing	

Intentions

To adopt a whole school policy for geography.
 To use cross-curricular links where possible to include geography in other curriculum areas, particularly when a main geography theme is not being taught.
 To monitor pupils’ progression throughout the key stages by reviewing and collecting samples of work for a portfolio, and ensuring planning covers the requirements for the 2014 Geography Curriculum.
 To use visits, fieldwork, visiting speakers, local area locations, artefacts and ICT to enrich geography teaching.
 To keep up to date with geography teaching news through in-service training
 To apply for the Geographical Association Quality Mark

Aims and Objectives

- Aims:** Through our teaching of geography we aim to
- stimulate the children’s interest and curiosity about their surroundings
 - create and foster a sense of wonder about the world that will remain with them forever
 - inspire a sense of responsibility for the environments and people of the world we live in
 - develop children’s competence in geographical skills so that they are able to collect, interpret and communicate information
 - increase the children’s knowledge and awareness of the world
 - help children understand key human and physical processes

Objectives:

At the EYFS in Understanding of the world:

- Children comment and ask questions about familiar places and the natural world
- Children look at similarities and differences, patterns and change
- Children explore, observe and talk about features of their own environments and how other environments may vary
- Children talk about likes and dislikes in their environment
- Children learn how to care for their environment

At KS1 and KS2 geography content is taken from the 2014 Geography Curriculum and has been divided into the Creative Curriculum Topics over a 4 Year Cycle (see appendix) to ensure coverage of all the core skills and knowledge.

Children learn

- To ask geographical questions such as: where is it? What is it like? What do I think about this place? How is this place different/similar? etc.
- To collect, record, analyse and communicate information
- To develop knowledge about the world, the UK and their own locality
- To name and locate places at a variety of scales
- To describe and compare human and physical features of places
- To use ICT to support geographical study wherever appropriate.
- To express their own views about people, places and environments in various forms.
- To use appropriate geographical vocabulary for their Key Stage.
- To use fieldwork skills to observe, measure and record information
- To recognise how the environment may be improved and sustained (no longer statutory but will be kept)

Principles of Teaching and Learning

Geography is the study of places, the human and physical processes which shape them, and the people who live in them.

Children learn to increase their knowledge and understanding of the changing world and learn to look after the earth and its resources. They are encouraged to develop respect and concern for, and an interest in, people throughout the world regardless of culture, race and religion. They will develop knowledge and understanding beyond their local area so that they are able to make comparisons between them.

Geography is to be taught as part of a four year Creative Curriculum rolling programme throughout KS1 and KS2. It includes the development of locational knowledge, the study of places and processes and also the development of geographical skills. Children study their local area, and contrasting localities in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

Geography will also be taught through cross-curricular work in many other areas of the curriculum such as English, Maths, History, RE, Literacy, Citizenship, Music and Forest School activities.

Equal Access and Outcome

All Equal Opportunities Policies will be adhered to, ensuring an entitlement for all to develop their potential, with all pupils having access to the full range of activities and experiences.

Fieldwork activities should be planned and adapted carefully to enable children with special needs to participate actively and safely.

Health and Safety

We adhere to the school Health and Safety policy.

We will maintain an awareness of Health and Safety issues both in the activities we plan and the equipment we provide for children.

Fieldwork outside the school grounds will be planned carefully with regard to the requirements for educational visits.

Implementation

The policy will be implemented following consultation with staff. All staff will have a copy of this policy by the end of the Spring Term 2015

Policy to be presented to the Governors curriculum committee for approval in Spring 2015.

The Co-ordinator will monitor the teaching of Geography and provide support and mentoring as needed.

Continuity and progression

The four year rolling programme which is based on our Creative Curriculum will provide continuity and progression. Staff will use the national curriculum to help plan for progression as well as refer to key skill level descriptors. The Co-ordinator will collect samples of work throughout the Key Stages to show evidence of this.

Resourcing

To update resources as needed and keep in convenient locations for use in KS1 or KS2.

Reporting

A grade showing the child's effort and attainment level (low, secure, high bandings) in geography is currently sent to parents each year.

At EYFS geography reporting will be included in the Area of Learning 'Understanding of the World- the world'.

Summary

'Geography is a key part of the curriculum because caring for the environment is essential to our survival. We must know how to make the best use, responsibly, of our resources and opportunities. Additionally, geography channels the natural human desire to understand how the world works - the processes and patterns that shape our lives, actions, places and environment.' (Simon Catling – Oxford Brookes University 1998)

Appendix

Some useful websites to support Geography teaching:

Geographical Association	http://www.geography.org.uk
Ordnance Survey	http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk
Oxfam	http://oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/index/html
Environment Agency	http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk
Scheme of work for Geography	http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/schemes/geography
BBC for news, weather, etc.	www.bbc.co.uk
Staffordshire Learning Net	www.sln.org.uk/geography
Curriculum Visions- we are a gold subscriber so can access teacher resources, books, film clips online	http://www.curriculumvisions.com/