



## Geography Policy

### Our Aims

Through our teaching of geography we aim to:

- stimulate pupils' interest in and curiosity about their surroundings
- increase their knowledge and understanding of the changing world
- encourage pupils to ask questions and propose solutions to environmental problems
- develop pupils' competence in specific geographical skills
- foster a sense of responsibility for the earth and its resources

### Through Geography we can also:

- Improve pupils' skills in literacy, numeracy and ICT
- Develop pupils' thinking skills
- Promote pupils' awareness and understanding of gender, cultural, spiritual and moral issues
- Develop pupils as active citizens

### Curriculum and School Organisation

Each year group works on specific learning objectives from the Geography curriculum. Geography can be taught by class teachers either as a specific study or incorporated within other subjects thus promoting and contributing to learning across the curriculum.

### Aims – Key Stage 1

At Key Stage One children will:

- Investigate and learn about the physical and human features of their own environment.
- Appreciate how their locality is similar to and different from other places.
- Focus on geographical questions like, what is it? Where is it? What is it like? How did it get like this?
- Develop and use geographical enquiry skills, including field work skills, geographical terms, making and using maps, and using photographs.

### Aims – Key Stage 2

At Key Stage Two children will:

- Study places and themes at different scales, from local to national, in the United Kingdom and overseas.
- Investigate how people and places are linked and how they relate to the wider world.
- Study how and why physical and human features are arranged as they are in a place or environment
- Investigate how people are influenced by and affect environments.
- Focus on geographical questions like What is it like? How did it get like this? How and why is it changing?
- Develop and use geographical enquiry skills, including fieldwork and IT skills, geographical terms, making and using maps, and using photographs.

The geography curriculum will be planned to ensure suitable progression through the programme of study devised for each year group/s. Detailed planning of Geography work will take place on a half termly and weekly basis by the class teacher and will be seen in medium and short term plans. The Geography coordinator will evaluate the Geography curriculum annually and draw up a development plan based upon findings.

The Geography coordinator will organise an annual geography quiz in order to help assess children's knowledge and understanding of topics covered as well as fill any gaps in children's knowledge. The content of the quiz will be decided during Summer 1, based on staff concerns of gaps in knowledge or insufficient coverage, and will be carried out in Summer 2.

### **Role of the Co-ordinator**

- Preparing policy documents and actions plans
- Review the long term plan and adapt where necessary
- Supply staff with a geography file or activities and ideas to support teaching
- Arrange an annual geography quiz
- Encouraging staff to provide effective learning opportunities for all pupils, to develop valid activities appropriate for children at different stages of development
- To organise, review and order resources and keep staff informed about new resources
- To maintain awareness of current developments in geography teaching by attending courses as appropriate

### **July 2016**

This Policy has been drawn up and written by the School Council and staff. This will be reviewed when updated legislation or guidance is issued by the DfE, Local Authority or other relevant organisation.

This will be reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

Drafted by: Helen Savage

Date: Annually