

SUTTON CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Geography Policy

June 2021

Intent

At Sutton C of E (VC) Primary School, we want our children to be happy and prepared for the future and able to make their world an even better place. We aim for a high quality, broad and balanced curriculum which is accessible to all and which will stimulate the children's interest and understanding of their locality and the wider world. The intent of our curriculum is to deliver a curriculum that helps children know more, remember more and understand more. We teach children locational knowledge, place knowledge, human and physical geography, skills and fieldwork. The use of fieldwork and educational visits enables the children to observe and collect data about people, cultures and natural environments.

Aims:

The aims of geography are:

- To inspire in pupils about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.
- To provide pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments.
- To develop a growing knowledge about the world to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments.
- To obtain geographical knowledge, understanding and skills.
- To enable children to learn and explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Implementation

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning in geography, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Geography is taught as part of a termly topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum.

- **Clear and comprehensive scheme of work in line with the National Curriculum** - The Geography National Curriculum and EYFS is planned for and covered in full within the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 school curriculum using the CUSP (Curriculum with Unity Schools Partnership) framework for learning. Whilst the EYFS and National Curriculum forms the foundation of our curriculum, we make sure that children learn additional skills, knowledge and understanding that enhances our curriculum as and when necessary.
- **Language** – The promotion of a language rich Geography curriculum is essential to the successful acquisition of knowledge and understanding in Geography. Geography and topic displays are encouraged in the school and should focus on key

aspects of Geography and exemplify the terminology used throughout the teaching of Geography.

- **Basic skills** -English, Maths, Science and ICT skills are taught during discrete lessons but are revisited in geography so children can apply and embed the skills they have learnt in a purposeful context.
- **Enhancement** – It is important that children develop the skills of a geographer by fully immersing them in all areas of the subject. The local area is fully utilised to achieve desired outcomes, with opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practise. School trips and fieldwork are provided to give first hand experiences, which enhance children’s understanding of the world beyond their locality.
- **Geographical enquiry and research:** During some lessons and through homework, children may well be asked to research geographical aspects of their learning independently. This allows the children to have ownership over their curriculum and lead their own learning in geography.
- **Interpretations of Geography** – We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression for locational and place knowledge, human and physical geography and fieldwork. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.

Impact

The impact and measure of this is to ensure that children at Sutton C of E (VC) Primary School are equipped with geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world.

Children will know more and understand more about Geography.

Children will have an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like.

They will have an excellent understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.

The children will have an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary.

They will be fluent in complex, geographical enquiry and will have the ability to apply questioning skills and use effective analytical and presentational techniques.

The children will have the ability to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain findings.

They will have significant levels of originality, imagination or creativity as shown in interpretations and representations of the subject matter.

They will be highly developed in all aspects of the geography curriculum and will frequently utilise fieldwork and other geographical skills and techniques to maximise their learning.

The children will have a passion for and commitment to the subject, and a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and people who live there.

Children will have the ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.

Teaching and Learning

Across the whole school, there are four key geographical learning strands that the children will explore over the course of their education at Sutton CE (VC) Primary –

- Locational knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and physical geography
- Geographical skills and fieldwork

As pupils develop these skills in a range of contexts, so too will they develop the ability to be independent learners, using the key geographical skills they have gained to explain the diversity of the world's places, people, resources and natural and human environments.

Learning from these strands helps children to foster an enthusiasm and sense of curiosity about the world, encouraging pupils in their first steps towards being life-long learners.

The learning objective for each lesson is informed by the most recent national curriculum and children are guided towards this within each lesson through the use of differentiated success criteria. Teaching and learning in geography is supported by numerous resources, including field work/exploration of the local area.

Assessment

Teachers provide formative feedback to pupils after completion of written tasks, in line with the school's marking policy. At the beginning and end of lessons/units

(whichever is most appropriate), quick quizzes from the CUSP curriculum are used to enable teachers and pupils to identify strengths and next steps. At the end of each unit, pupils are assessed on Pupil Asset, stating against objectives from the current National Curriculum, whether each pupil is working below, at or exceeding age related expectations for their year group.

Responsibilities

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff and the responsibility for monitoring and review rests with the geography coordinator.