

Geography

At St James' Church of England Primary Academy, we strive to prepare all our children to successfully aspire to a wealth of opportunities with curiosity and resilience embedded in all they do.

Intent

At St. James' Primary Academy we aim to inspire a curiosity and fascination about the world, which will remain with them for the rest of their lives, and to promote pupils' interest and understanding of diverse people and places. We seek to help them develop their identity and promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding in order to become Global Citizens. We aim to encourage a holistic appreciation of the world and the interconnections between specific geography skills such as reading OS maps and geographical concepts such as community, sustainability and cultural diversity. Geography intends to contextualise and extend the possibilities for a range of cross-curricular links especially maths, English and ICT. This helps to enrich pupils' knowledge and understanding. Through active engagement, children understand the difference between human and natural geographical features. Geography should be taught in an investigative way, so that links can be made with their own local area and to develop resilient learners. Across the Key Stages, we cover all the skills, knowledge and understanding as set out in the National Curriculum. These will enable them to gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's geography and that of the wider world. Geography is delivered through subject specific teaching and cross-curricular links strengthen connections and understanding.

Implementation

All teachers hold aspiration, opportunity, curiosity and resilience at the heart of their planning. Geography is taught through our Topics (in conjunction with History). Topics are chosen to ensure there is a balance of History and Geography within the curriculum in each Key Stage. Each term, 'I know, therefore I can' grids are created for each topic. These grids will ensure progression of skills, as well as providing a range of engaging tasks and encouraging curiosity to develop knowledge. We aim to embed 'sticky' knowledge e.g. key facts and information that the children need to know, in a variety of ways (including low stakes testing) and through using a range of key skills. Children are encouraged to make cross-curricular links with art, English, maths and ICT. Learning walls are consistently used to support and scaffold children's learning; this includes vocabulary word banks. Geography assessment is continuous, and informs teachers planning and questioning. Assessment grids are completed at the end of each term to reflect the geography skills covered and progress made. Teachers' actively consider visits and/or visitors which may support children's learning in the wider world.

Impact

At the end of each term, teachers will assess individual's progress against the key skills. Ongoing assessment will support teachers to identify gaps in knowledge and understanding.

By the end of Year 6 we expect children to be able to:

- Use a range of resources (including maps, aerial photos and atlases) to find out about different parts of the World
- Collect and record evidence and data to support their learning about the World e.g. temperatures
- Draw maps (including key OS features, compass points and scales)

Pupils should be able to talk confidently and demonstrate what they have learnt in Geography using subject specific vocabulary. Pupils' work demonstrates that geography is taught at an age appropriate standard across the school and that teachers have high expectations of the pupils, with challenging tasks where appropriate. Work should be of a good quality and demonstrate the knowledge, skills and vocabulary that pupils are acquiring.