



Ashmole Primary School

Geography Policy

Introduction

This policy outlines the teaching, organisation and management of geography taught at Ashmole Primary School.

Aims (In line with the National Curriculum)

We teach geography to ensure that all pupils:

- develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.
- understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
 - collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes.
 - interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
 - communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

Geography and the Creative Curriculum

Through teaching geography as part of the Creative Curriculum we can:

- develop pupils' skills across the curriculum, especially in literacy, numeracy, Computing, PSHE and history.
- promote pupils' awareness and understanding of gender, cultural, spiritual and moral issues.
- help pupils to develop a sense of identity and citizenship.
- to embed pupils' awareness of the importance of values in different cultures across the world.
- enable pupils to transfer skills learnt into different aspects of their learning.

Teaching and Learning

When teaching geography teachers will:

- always explain the big question/question and the skill being acquired within each lesson.
- always explain key vocabulary that will be used within each lesson.
- always use a key question to direct or inspire pupils' thinking about a place.
- use a range of resources and activities in order that each pupil can be effective in learning about places.
- use starters and plenaries to ensure pupils fully understand what they have previously learnt, what they are learning, how they learn and how well they are progressing.
- ensure that pupils learn in a variety of ways, both in and outside of the classroom (inclusive of fieldwork).

In learning geography pupils will:

- use a range of resources such as people, the local environment, visits, photographs, maps, atlases, written materials, Computing, TV / video extracts.
- investigate significant issues about places; work in a variety of contexts – individually, in groups, as a class.
- present their knowledge and understanding in a variety of ways such as through drama, art, models, a range of writing styles / genre, timelines, maps.
- begin to pose and investigate their own questions about different places.
- carry out fieldwork.

Curricular targets

At the beginning of every geography lesson we:

- engage pupils in a starter which focuses on a school curricular target. This aims to improve pupils' knowledge of places in Great Britain and the wider world.

Assessment

To assess pupils' progress in geography we:

Assess pupils' strengths and next steps for development using milestones. Each term, teachers assess children's understanding throughout a topic based on the completion of work and the skills they have been able to use, to identify pupils who are not achieving the milestone (expected progress) and those pupils who are exceeding the milestone. All of the assessment is based on the National Curriculum expectations. All of this information is passed up with the pupil throughout their time at school.

Monitoring and Evaluation

To monitor and evaluate geography, the subject leader:

- carries out work and planning scrutinies;
- observes lessons;
- carries out pupil interviews;
- reviews provision of resources;
- supports with teaching and learning and CPD.

Resources in school

These are updated regularly and as appropriate. Texts, maps, atlases, videos, photographs, Computing are some examples of the resources in school. Most resources are kept in classrooms in accordance to the topics being taught. A wide range of trips are planned to enhance learning and to support the Geography curriculum.

Equal Opportunities

All children are provided with equal access to the geography curriculum. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability/disability.

November 2023

To be reviewed November 2024