

St Nicholas Primary School



Geography Policy 2020



St Nicholas School is a UNICEF Rights Respecting School and promotes rights respecting values in all its policies

The Governing Body of St Nicholas School have formally adopted this policy

Signed _____

Headteacher

Signed _____

Chair of Governors

ST NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL

GEOGRAPHY POLICY

Introduction:

The Geography Curriculum at St Nicholas School provides a series of units that are planned to give learning experiences appropriate for all its pupils. The teachers base their planning in the QCA guidelines and the Early Years Foundation Stage, but modify it to make it more accessible, more creative and more inclusive to accommodate the needs of each child. The children learn about their local area and compare their life in this area with that in other regions in the United Kingdom and in the rest of the world.

Intent:

The school aims to develop knowledge, skills and understanding enabling pupils to:

- Become interested in their surroundings and in the variety of human and physical conditions on the Earth's surface
- Develop a sense of wonder at the beauty of the world around them
- Develop an informed concern about the quality of the environment and the future of the human habitat
- Develop a sense of responsibility for the care of the Earth and its people

Implementation:

Geography is a foundation subject at St Nicholas School taught as a discreet subject primarily but also across other curriculum areas. We plan our Geography curriculum in accordance with the EYFS 'Development Matters' Document and the 2014 National Curriculum Mathematics Programme of Study. Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 follow the EYFS curriculum so Geography (Knowledge and Understanding of World) is taught through a play-based approach. In Key Stage 2, we follow an adapted national curriculum.

A cross-curricular approach has been developed for the following reasons:

- to enable pupils to access the curriculum through a wide variety of linked activities
- to encourage a greater range of teaching strategies and styles
- to stimulate, motivate and include all pupils by using visual, audio and kinaesthetic learning styles
- to enhance the learning environment by creating opportunities for children to experience optimum emotional health and well being
- to encourage pupils to make links with other areas of learning
- to build on prior knowledge and extend skills
- to meet diverse needs and deliver personalised learning where appropriate
- to build on pupils' strengths and develop areas of weaknesses

In the Early years, pupils are encouraged to observe the space around them. They learn through real experiences and relate these to their play. They develop an awareness of their immediate environment and the features within it. The Geography curriculum is under the umbrella of Understanding of the World and is organised on a topic basis. Children cover the three aspects of physical, human and environmental Geography.

In key Stage 1, Geography is about developing knowledge, skills and understanding relating to children's own environment (including personal and local), the people who live there and developing an awareness of the wider world.

In Key Stage 2, Geography is about developing knowledge, skills and understanding relating to people, places and environments at different scales, both locally and overseas and an appreciation of how places relate to each other and the wider world.

Impact:

The Curriculum helps pupils to:

- Understand themselves and their personal geography (for example, where they live, their local environment).
- Pursue a sense of personal identity and self-worth, linked with a sense of time and place
- Appreciate the relevance of geography to life, the world and society outside of school

The Curriculum helps St Nicholas School to:

- Promote equal opportunities
- Raise pupils' awareness of the world around them
- Raise standards of achievement by use of teachers' assessment and planning
- Encourage children to be independent learners who are able to assess their own achievements in geography

The Curriculum enables society to gain:

- Children who have an understanding and appreciation of their environment
- Children who can better understand the changes in the world around them

Teacher Assessment:

Teachers will collect samples of work from each group termly.