

Geography

Intent, Implementation & Impact

Intent

At Wingrave Church of England School, we believe that all children are inspired to be geographers by becoming curious and explorative thinkers with a diverse knowledge of the ever-changing world and its people. The curriculum enables children to develop knowledge and progressive skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which can and are used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our teaching equips pupils with knowledge about places and people; resources in the environment; physical and human processes; formation and use of landscapes. We aspire for all children to develop geographical skills: collecting and analysing data; using maps, globes, aerial photographs and digital mapping to name and identify countries, continents and oceans; and communicating information in a variety of ways.

We want children to enjoy and love learning about geography by gaining knowledge and skills, not just through experiences in the classroom, but also with the use of fieldwork outside of the classroom. The aim, ultimately for children is for them to develop the confidence to question and observe places, measure and record data in a variety of ways which can then be used to analyse and present their findings. We endeavour our children to be inspired geographers and allow them to know more, remember more and understand more.

Geography is taught across the school on a two – year cycle focusing on the knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. The children will be taught locational and place knowledge, aspects of human and physical geography as well as developing a range of geographical skills and fieldwork. The curriculum is designed to build on the children’s prior learning/ skills and to widen their knowledge of world from their immediate surroundings and locality to countries in Europe and other continents. Teachers will use cross-curricular opportunities to teach and reinforce geographical knowledge and skills in a meaningful context and immerse children in a vocabulary rich environment.

At Wingrave Church of England Combined School we aim for children to achieve age related expectations in geography by the end of each academic year, retain knowledge that is pertinent to geography with a real-life context, understand how geography ‘happens’ in their local area and have a good understanding of the world around them and how it has been shaped. This will be evidenced through regular assessment, children’s exercise books, writing books, classroom displays and pupil voice. We aim for all children to have enjoyed learning about geography, to equip them with necessary geographical skills and knowledge. But most of all, the study of geography will deepen their knowledge of the places and people across the world and encourage them to become active citizens who will have the skills to contribute to and improve the world around them now and in the future.

Implementation

The National curriculum organises the Geography attainment targets under four strands:

- Locational knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and physical geography

- Geographical skills and fieldwork

Kapow is a scheme of work that has a clear progression of skills and knowledge across all year groups within these strands. This helps ensure the attainment targets are met at the end of each year and key stage. Key geographical concepts are woven across all units to enable them to be embedded and for clear progression. As a spiral curriculum, essential knowledge and skills are revisited with increasing complexity, which allows children to revisit and build upon previous learning. Children will learn in a variety of ways, including independent, paired work, group work and whole class learning either with a hands-on approach, computer based or collaborative tasks to appeal to all learning styles.

In EYFS, a solid foundation of geographical skills, knowledge and enquiry through adult-led and child-initiated activities is provided. Then moving into to KS1 and KS2, cross curricular links are made so children can apply their geography skills to other areas of their learning. Open ended questions are used to allow children to develop their thinking and engage children in their learning through collecting, interpreting and representing data. Fieldwork skills are practised as often as possible. To reflect the elements of the National Curriculum, Kapow uses an enquiry cycle which maps out the process of question, observe, measure, record and present.

Impact

Using an enquiry-based approach to learning will enable teachers to assess children against the National Curriculum expectations for Geography.

The expected impact for using the scheme is that children will:

- Compare and contrast human and physical features to describe and understand similarities and differences between various places in the UK, Europe and the Americas.
- Name, locate and understand where and why the physical elements of our world are located and how they interact, including processes over time relating to climate, biomes, natural disasters and the water cycle.
- Understand how humans use the land for economic and trading purposes, including how the distribution of natural resources has shaped this.
- Develop an appreciation for how humans are impacted by and have evolved around the physical geography surrounding them and how humans have had both a positive and a negative impact on the environment.
- Develop a sense of location and place around the UK and some areas of the wider world using the eight-points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and keys on maps, globes, atlases, aerial photographs and digital mapping.
- Identify and understand how various elements of our globe create positioning, including latitude, longitude, the hemispheres, the tropics and how time zones work, including night and day.
- Present and answer their own geographical enquiries using planned and specifically chosen methodologies, collected data and digital technologies.
- Meet the 'Understanding the World' Early Learning Goals at the end of EYFS, and the end of key stage expectations outlined in the National curriculum for Geography by the end of Year 2 and Year 6.

Each unit is assessed at the end of the teaching, and data is recorded and monitored by the subject leader.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a tiny mustard seed planted in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds but becomes the largest of plants, and grows into a tree where birds can come and find shelter.”

Matthew 13:31-32



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