

## **Yeadon Westfield Infant School Geography Policy 2020- Review 2023**

*This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children, and expects our staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment. This policy should be read in conjunction with all other school policies.*

### **Introduction**

The teaching of Geography should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. It will enable pupils to see the links between the natural and human world, to develop an appreciation of how different cultures and societies rely on each other and help them to think about their own place in the world and their responsibilities towards it.

### **Aims**

We aim, through the teaching of Geography, to enable pupils to:-

- develop geographical knowledge and understanding of places and environments throughout the world;
- develop a greater knowledge of their local area and community;
- develop good knowledge of the United Kingdom, its countries and capital cities;
- increase their knowledge of other cultures and, in so doing, develop respect and understanding of what it means to be a positive citizen in a multicultural country;
- learn graphic skills, for example how to use, draw and interpret maps;
- develop an awareness of the relationships between people and the environment;
- develop a range of investigative and problem solving skills both inside and outside the classroom;
- and to develop a sense of responsibility for the care of the earth and its peoples.

### **Principles which underpin our scheme of work**

- Our approach to geography is in line with the overall educational approaches of the school and other curriculum areas.
- We have a focus on the key skills for geography.
- Key skills and knowledge that must be taught are clearly identified and assessed.
- Our geography scheme will be manageable in terms of content, for both staff and students.
- We will ensure there is a clear progression from Foundation Stage 1 to Year 2 which takes account of the development of children's geographical thinking and general progress.
- All the children will be given clear instructions about all the Health and Safety procedures laid down for off-site visits (see policy on educational visits).

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- All the children will be given clear instructions on how to hold and use materials or objects obtained from local environments safely in order to prevent injury.
- All the pupils will be made aware of rules and procedures governing any investigative work.
- All studies carried out in the school grounds will have any risks identified before commencement and protective clothing will be worn where necessary.
- Our Scheme of work has been developed in line with:
  - The National Curriculum requirements for KS1 (2014)
  - Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage - Understanding the World - People and Communities & The World
- We will use the locality and school environment wherever possible to deliver the Geography curriculum.
- We will continue to look for ways to enrich and enliven the curriculum with visits and visitors where appropriate.

### **Themes to be covered over the year**

#### **Foundation**

Seasons and weather, Clothes we wear, Myself/Ourselves, Small world play, Family, Homes, School, People who help us, Transport /Journeys, Maps, Environment.

#### **Year1**

Seasons and weather

The local area: around school; where I live; The Greenway

Maps and atlases, using Google Earth to explore interests

The United Kingdom: Four countries/capital cities and surrounding area and seas

An introduction to the Continents and Oceans

#### **Year2**

Location and place knowledge

Continents and oceans

Polar regions; contrasting places

Compass and grid references

World environment day

Recycling and looking after our planet

Where a theme fits into or alongside another topic or subject, skills will be clearly identified as Geography, or in the Foundation Stage as Understanding the World - People

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and Communities/ The World, on the planning sheets and in books. Geography can also be taught as a separate topic or block of teaching.

The full range of teaching styles and learning experiences used in the rest of the curriculum should be used for the teaching of Geography, including

- individual, paired and group activities
- differentiated tasks and materials
- appropriate use of information technology
- access to a broad range of supportive resources
- presentation and display of pupils' work through a variety of media

### **Key Skills and "non-negotiables"**

Key skills have been identified as themes to run through the four year groups to ensure that children have a developing understanding of maps and mapping, the United Kingdom and our place in the world. There are expectations that these skills will take place regularly in each year group.

### **Assessment**

Performance in Geography at Key Stage 1 will be assessed during the year and judged against the key skills and knowledge identified by us as appropriate for each year group. These are taken from the National Curriculum. We have assessment grids for recording children's names as working towards, at or above age related expectations which are linked to the key geographical skills and knowledge taught.

In the Foundation Stage the children will be assessed against the Foundation Stage Profile criteria using observations and some recorded work.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Single Equalities Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Assessment Policy
- and any other relevant policies.