



St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

Policy	Geography Policy
Author	Luke van de Wiel
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Governor Committee	Curriculum and Achievement
Statutory Policy	No

Rationale

Geography is not simply being able to name countries and point to them on a map. Geography is the understanding of both the physical and the human world. The rich complexity of how everything and everyone on the planet are linked together.

At St Agatha's, we provide every child with the opportunity to develop their geographical skills, knowledge and enquiry through a rich and engaging curriculum. We encourage our children to explore and question the world around them and develop their curiosity. We strive to provide them with the skills and knowledge they need to understand the world.

The overarching aims in geography are to develop children's:

- geographical enquiry;
- skills;
- and knowledge.

In order to achieve these aims, we provide the following:

- A stimulating, challenging and supportive learning environment;
- Enjoyable and engaging learning opportunities;
- Out of classroom learning to develop mapping and fieldwork skills;
- Suitable resources to develop mapping skills and locational knowledge;
- Exposure to evocative images, case studies and stories.

The Geography Curriculum

Geography teaching at St Agatha's Primary School meets all the relevant statutory requirements for Key Stages 1 and 2 and for Early Years Foundation Stage. The Key Stage 1 and 2 objectives are outlined in the National Curriculum Programme of Study 2014. The objectives for the Early Years are outlined in the Understanding of the World in the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework.

Teaching and learning

During the Autumn Term, the focus is on skills and knowledge, such as map work and locational knowledge. Throughout the Spring Term, the focus is a cross curricular project exploring the interconnectivity of geography. Therefore, the Summer Term gives the opportunity to revise and consolidate the key geographical skills and knowledge.

During lessons, a strong emphasis is placed on the correct use of geographical terms. Whenever places are being discussed, children are shown where the place is, on a map, to develop locational knowledge. Opportunities are given for out of classroom learning to develop mapping and fieldwork skills.

All geography lessons will be carried out in line with the school's health and safety policy (see school website). When fieldwork takes children off site, then a risk assessment will be undertaken to ensure the safety of pupils, staff and helpers.

Resources

Every class in EYFS, KS1 and KS2 have a globe or world map in their classrooms and access to age appropriate atlases. Classes also have a range of texts relating to the location or process being studied. Within the school environment, there are various displays (both permanent and temporary) that show geographical learning. There are various maps throughout the school varying from global to local.

Cross curricular links

Geography as a subject has a great potential for cross curricular links with other subjects and staff take every opportunity to exploit this, giving more context to geographical understanding and allowing for more coverage.

Sustainability – see linked policy

Assessment

Children are assessed according to the school's Assessment Policy.

Marking and Feedback

Verbal and written feedback are given according to the Marking and Feedback Policy.

Home Learning

The expectations of home learning can be found in the Learning at Home Policy.