

# **Geography Policy**

## Autumn 2021

#### **AIMS**

At Christ the King, geography is a valued part of the curriculum. It provides a purposeful means for exploring, appreciating and understanding the world in which we live and how it has evolved. Geography explores the relationship between the Earth and its people through the study of place, space and environment. Geography is concerned with pupils learning about their own locality whilst developing knowledge and understanding of the world beyond their own environment. Geography encourages children to learn through experience, particularly through fieldwork activities.

The strands in geography are:

- Locational knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and physical geography
- Geographical skills and fieldwork

#### **APPROACH**

In line with the National Curriculum, we take an enquiry-based approach in lessons, guided by 'key questions' and 'big concepts' and aim:

- To inspire in pupils about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.
- To provide pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments.
- To develop a growing knowledge about the world to deepen their understanding of the
  interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of
  landscapes and environments. Children will gain a growing appreciation of the impact
  of humans upon the Earth.
- To obtain Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills.
- To enable children to learn and explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

#### **RESOURCES**

Teachers are guided towards the use of geography resources that promote enquiry based learning and include:

Sticky knowledge documents, atlases, maps, plans and fieldwork guidance.

Teachers also have access to the Oddizzi (an online support resource) and the Geographical Association website, which provides resources and CPD opportunities.

Both a world and UK map should be displayed and refereed to regularly and, where possible, places should be located and labelled as they arise throughout all of the subject areas but particularly history to ensure children have an understanding of the location of historical events in relation to the wider world.

#### **EYFS**

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, geography is included as part of Understanding the World and children need to:

- observe, find out about, and identify features in the place they live and the natural world;
- begin to know about their own cultures and beliefs and those of other people;
- find out about their environment, and talk about those features they like and dislike.

### TIME ALLOCATION

Geography is usually taught in half term blocks and alternated with history, although links are explored as appropriate. In Y1- 1 hour per week; Y2-6 1. 5 hours per week.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

Geography work is marked in line with our 'Feedback and Marking Policy'.

Formative assessment should take place during a lesson. The beginning of a lesson should start with the big concept being explored and reference to location of events on world or UK map. Key questions should then be asked throughout the lesson to secure understanding of big concepts and a summary made at the end of each lesson.

At the end of a geography topic, children can be assessed in multiple ways. This could be via verbal questioning, double-page spread, poster or a long piece of writing to show their acquired knowledge (KS2).

# MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on a bi- annual basis by the subject leader.

The subject leader will monitor teaching and learning ensuring that the content of the national curriculum is covered across all phases of pupils' education. The subject leader will complete Pupil Voice questions termly to gain an insight into learning across the school.

The Curriculum committee of the governing body is briefed to oversee the teaching of geography, and meets termly with the subject leader to review progress.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all teaching staff.

	Policy agreed	by Governors:	Autumn 2021
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Signed: (Chair of Governors)

Policy to be reviewed: Autumn 2023