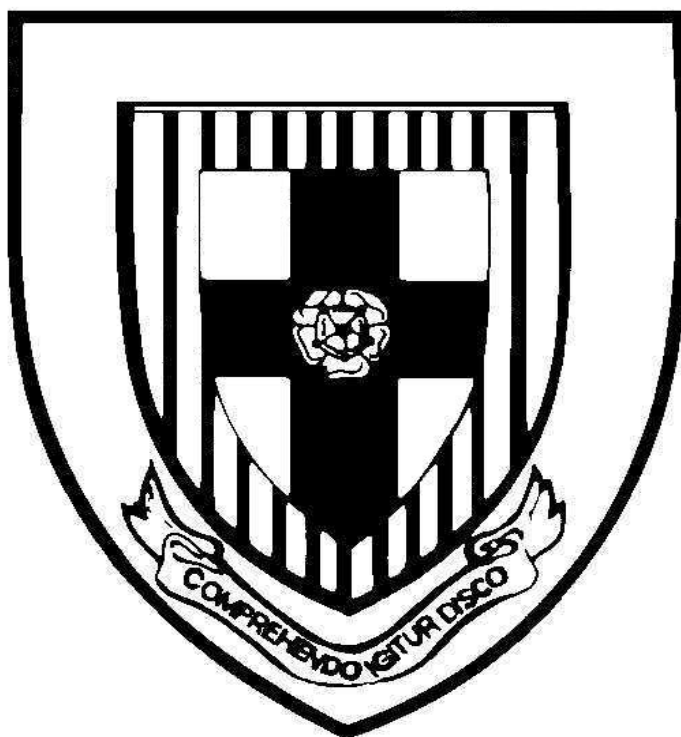


Oak Cottage Primary School



Geography

Curriculum (Intent, Implementation, Impact)

January 2024

Intent

Geography is essentially about understanding the world we live in. It helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. At Oak Cottage Primary School, children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum enables children to develop substantive and disciplinary knowledge that are transferable to other curriculum areas. Geography is an investigative subject and is delivered as such, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. Our intent, when teaching geography, is to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and people within it; to promote the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. We aim to develop children with the following key characteristics to support them in becoming independent geographers:

- Have a thorough understanding of the National Curriculum content for Geography
- Develop their disciplinary knowledge as detailed in the National Curriculum
- Use appropriate Geographical vocabulary in the correct contexts
- Understand the role that Geography plays in the wider world, including potential future career opportunities
- Understand the roles played by different Geographers in different roles (surveyors, environmental consultants, cartographer, travel and tourism, transport planners etc) throughout history, including those of different races, genders, nationalities and protected characteristics
- See the connections between Geography and other aspects of their learning, including reading, writing, computing, Science and History.
- Are provided with sufficient challenge and support to progress at their own level
- Enjoy and take pride in their learning.
- Develop a sense of curiosity about the world and cultures through exploration.
- Develop a wide knowledge and understanding of people, events and contexts from a range of geographical locations.
- Think critically about geography and communicate their ideas confidently in a range of ways and to different audiences;
- Have the ability to use geographical evidence from a range of sources to support, evaluate and question their own and others' view;
- Develop the ability to think, reflect on, debate, discuss and evaluate findings by forming perceptive questions, lines of enquiry and fieldwork
- Develop respect for geographical evidence and the ability to make use of it to support their learning
- Taught through fieldwork activities where children are able to develop a greater understanding of the world in their local area and across the world.

Implementation (How we teach it?)

We have implemented a curriculum that aims to enable all our children, regardless of background, ability or additional needs, to flourish and to develop key geographical skills. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression using the scheme KAPOW. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children. Staff are able to access the scheme for a variety of up-to-date resources, publications, and training to ensure pupils access rich and engaging lessons.

Geography at Oak Cottage Primary School is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Teachers have worked collaboratively to ensure the units work effectively alongside other subjects. Key knowledge and skills of each blocked topic has been carefully considered to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school with previous learning being addressed. At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they know already as well as what they would like to find out. This informs the programme of study and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion. Cross curricular outcomes in geography are specifically planned for, with strong links between geography and history lessons. The local area is fully utilised in each unit with opportunities for fieldwork within each year groups units in order to achieve the desired outcomes, with expensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom imbedded in practise to encourage exploration and curiosity.

In EYFS, Geography is taught as part of the "Understanding the World" strand of learning, with a mixture of continuous provision activities and adult-led learning. Elements of KAPOW are also introduced involving exploration of maps to ensure children begin to develop a wider understanding the world around us in readiness for KS1. This structure continues into Year 1 before moving on to a more formal approach from Year 2 onwards. Each unit of work begins with a pre-learning assessment challenge. This allows pupils to reflect on their previous learning and generate questions they would like to find out the answers to over the course of the unit. It also allows teachers an opportunity to address any misconceptions and follow the children's particular interests for that unit.

The curriculum content is taught in a child-centred way and lessons are differentiated appropriately to provide access and challenge for all children. Children undertake a variety of different types of activities for each unit of work, including practical activities, exploration and work designed to develop their vocabulary. Children are taught about the important contributions of individual Geographers and explorers, including those of different nationalities, races and genders.

To encourage cross-curricular learning, children often do an activity which links their Geographical learning with a foundation subject. For example, in Year 4 children use their knowledge of invasions within their history unit to enhance their understanding of geography and how this developed through history.

Our Geography curriculum is taught:

- So that lessons are appropriately pitched and challenging and are designed to inspire and support learning, providing opportunities to explore the world
- Through carefully sequenced lessons that demonstrate progression building upon prior knowledge and enabling children to apply it to new learning
- To allow children to make links across the curriculum through topic based learning
- Using fieldwork to drive curiosity and exploration whilst being able to analysis and discuss observations and findings.
- By ensuring that key vocabulary is incorporated alongside different sources of evidence – both primary and secondary – to help bring history to life within the classroom

Impact

Outcomes in children's learning are of a high standard which is evidenced through pictures, fieldwork, data collection and work produced in topic books. They evidence a broad and balanced geography curriculum which demonstrates children's acquisition of identified key knowledge and vocabulary. Children consistently build on prior learning through each unit as they progress through school and are actively encouraged to build their vocabulary bank. Children also record what they have learned comparative to their starting points through interactive online quizzes and the end of every topic.

As children progress throughout the school, they develop a deep knowledge, understanding an appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context.

At Oak Cottage Primary School, as Geographers, our children demonstrate enthusiasm for the subject and can talk with confidence about Geography. Clear progress of substantive knowledge, disciplinary knowledge and vocabulary is clearly defined as the children progress through each year group.

Upon leaving Oak Cottage Primary, children will be able to:

- Have an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like.
- Have an excellent understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.
- Have an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary.
- Be fluent in complex geographical enquiry and the ability to apply questioning skills and use effective analytical and presentational techniques.
- Have the ability to reach clear conclusions and develop reasoned arguments to explain findings.
- Have significant levels of originality, imagination or creativity as shown in interpretations and representations of subject matter.
- Have highly developed and frequently utilised fieldwork and other geographical skills and techniques.
- Have a passion for and commitment to the subject, and a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there.
- Have the ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.