

Appendix 5: Curriculum Statement for Geography

Organisation of the Curriculum

The National Curriculum for Geography is divided into Locational knowledge, Place knowledge, Human and physical geography and Geographical skills and field work.

Each academic year one whole school theme is geographically based. Some of the geography curriculum is taught through these whole school cross curricular themes, in particular Place knowledge and Human and physical geography.

In addition elements of Locational knowledge and Geographical skills and fieldwork that are not covered in these whole school themes are taught throughout the year. Each year group is provided with a scheme of work outlining the geographical skills and knowledge that need to be taught.

Geography may be taught as a weekly lesson or as a block of lessons in one week or as part of a Topic. In KS2 RE is taught in rotation with History and Geography.

Curriculum Coverage and Progression

Teachers use the National Curriculum alongside the school's own scheme of work to ensure progression and curriculum coverage. These provide the framework for both long and medium term planning.

Early Years

In the Foundation Stage, geography forms part of the Understanding of the World strand of the Early Years curriculum. The children are encouraged to explore their environment and the natural world at first hand, and they are given opportunities to make representations, using a variety of materials.

Planning Documents Used

An outline of geography teaching for each Year group is included in the Curriculum Overview and it appears in thematic planning where appropriate. There is no compulsory medium-term or weekly planning pro-forma for geography, although template planning for Foundation subjects is available.

Teaching and Learning

Lessons are planned with clear objectives.

Teachers encourage enquiries, using questions, such as:

Where is the place? What is it like? How did it get like this? How is it changing and why?

The teaching of geography includes opportunities for fieldwork and practical map work activities.

The use of visitors and artefacts or cultural objects is encouraged.

Opportunities are taken where appropriate to develop independent research and study skills using secondary sources, including books, pictures, photographs and ICT.

Atlases and globes are frequently used in the classroom to support the teaching of geography and other subjects.

Displays are used to develop children's geographical knowledge and skills.

Cross curricular links to other subjects are made whenever possible.

Presentation

Children present their work in a variety of ways matched to their age and ability and the type of work they are undertaking e.g. topic books and folders, through talk and spoken presentations, drama and assemblies, maps and models, through writing of different styles and to different audiences such as stories, poetry, newspapers, reports, letters. Children are encouraged to use ICT.

Resources for Teaching Geography

A wide range of resources are used in the teaching of Geography, including atlases, globes, resources files and boxes and artefacts. There are a number of geographical books in the library and in classroom collections. On the computer network there is a folder for 'Geography' containing resources for different topics. Additional geographical resources can be found on the computer network under 'Whole school Themes'

Sam Coates July 2015