

Geography

Intent

The intention of the Geography Curriculum at Kingskerswell Church of England Primary School is to inspire children's curiosity and interest to explore the world that we live in and its people, which aims to ignite a love of learning to develop their curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. We intend to equip children with geographical skills to develop their knowledge through studying places, people and natural and human environments. Our Geography curriculum is designed to investigate a range of places – both in Britain and abroad – to help develop their knowledge and understanding of the Earth's physical and human processes. We are committed to providing children with opportunities to investigate and make enquiries about their local area of Kingskerswell and South Devon so that they can develop of real sense of who they are, their heritage and what makes our local area unique and special. We are also developing the children's ability to apply geographical skills to enable to confidently communicate their findings and geographical understanding. Through high quality teaching, we develop the following essential characteristics of geographers:

- An excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like, both in Britain and the wider world;
- An comprehensive understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected;
- An extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary;
- Fluency in complex, geographical enquiry and the ability to apply questioning skills, as well as effective presentation techniques;
- The ability to reach clear conclusions and explain their findings;
- Excellent fieldwork skills as well as other geographical aptitudes and techniques;
- The ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current issues in society and the environment;
- A genuine interest in the subject and a real sense of curiosity about the world and the people who live here.

Our aims are to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum (2014) for Geography; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum; ensuring the progressive development of geographical concepts, knowledge and skills; and for the children to develop a love for geography. Furthermore, we aim to inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

- To inspire pupils' curiosity to discover more about the world
- To enable children to know about the location of the world's continents, countries, cities, seas and oceans.

- To develop in children the skills of interpreting a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
- To help children understand how the human and physical features of a place shapes its location and can change over time.
- To provide opportunities to study mathematics across the curriculum through geography lessons

Implementation

Geography is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Geography is taught as part of a termly topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the 2014 National Curriculum. The key knowledge and skills of each topic have been identified and arranged into knowledge organisers. These are then used to pre-teach the children and further support their learning at home. Consideration has been given to ensure lessons for each topic are carefully planned for progression and depth concentrating on the geographical skills suited to the age group; progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. In order to foster children's curiosity about the world, interest and creativity, we are enthusiastic about Geography and encourage children to explore and ask questions.

Children will access a range of resources to acquire learning through atlases, maps, digital technology, books and photographs. Google Earth maps and satellite view are often used initially to add immediacy and a real-life context to lessons. Using a range of secondary resources to develop their knowledge and understanding is integral to their learning. The importance of a clear understanding of the key vocabulary in Geography is recognised. Staff work hard to explain key vocabulary clearly and practically, then encourage children to use technical vocabulary accurately in order to gain confidence and precision in their work.

Educational visits are another opportunity for the teachers to plan for additional geography learning outside the classroom. At Kingskerswell C of E Primary School, we aim for the children to have many opportunities to experience geography on educational visits. The children have also explored the local area including orienteering within the school grounds in our Forest School, to further geography learning, as well as trips to local beaches, they have the opportunity to enhance their map reading skills during residential trips.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follows the 'Development Matters in the EYFS' guidance which aims for all children in Foundation Stage to have an 'Understanding of the World; people and communities, the world and technology' by the end of the academic year.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Assessing children's understanding of topic linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Summative assessment of pupil discussions about their learning.

- Images and videos of the children's practical learning.
- Conferencing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice).
- Moderation staff meetings where pupil's books are scrutinised and there is the opportunity for a dialogue between teachers to understand their class's work.
- Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum.
- Marking of written work in books.

Through a wide range of experiences our children will learn about the features, diversity, wonder and importance of our world and how it should be treated, setting them up to be responsible global citizens.

Impact

Children will have developed the geographical knowledge and skills to help them explore, navigate and understand the world around them and their place in it. Children's knowledge and skills will develop progressively as they move through the school, not only to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum but to prepare them to become competent geographers in secondary education.

Within geography, we strive to create a supportive and collaborative ethos for learning by providing investigative and enquiry based learning opportunities. Emphasis is placed on investigative learning opportunities to help children gain a coherent knowledge of understanding of each unit of work covered throughout the school. Outcomes in the children's Geography books evidence a broad and balanced geography curriculum and demonstrates the children's acquisition of identified key knowledge and skills.