



STATEMENT OF INTENT

GEOGRAPHY

Our School Vision

An Inclusive Community Inspiring Life Long Learners

Intent

At Alderley Edge County Primary school, we believe that Geography helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. 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 knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which can and are used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; 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. They will also learn to recognise and understand issues concerning the environment and sustainable development and an appreciation of what 'global citizenship' means. We aim to increase children's knowledge of other cultures and, in so doing, teach a respect and understanding of what it means to be a positive citizen in a multi-cultural country. The curriculum is designed to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable, throughout their time at our school; to develop interest and enjoyment of geographical experiences and build confidence and understanding with a strong focus on Global Learning. We build on the outcomes in the EYFS and through the National Curriculum work to achieve these goals. Our intention is that Geography also fully supports our core drivers of academic excellence, life-long learning, possibilities and risks and social intelligence so that the children are equipped to carry on learning beyond their primary education.

Implementation

Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to develop the knowledge and skills to be life-long learners. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children. Geography at Alderley Edge Primary school is taught in half termly blocks throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each blocked topic (knowledge organisers) and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. 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 ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points and pupil voice. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated within each lesson, as well as how learners 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, maths and literacy identified where ever possible. The local area is fully utilised to achieve the desired outcomes, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice. We also teach a progression of geographical vocabulary to support children in their understanding. At Alderley Edge Community Primary School, we ensure our children access to a wide range of good quality resources to support their geographical learning.

Impact

The implementation of our curriculum ensures that when children leave Alderley Edge Community Primary School, they have an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like. Outcomes in books evidence a broad and balanced geography curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of identified key knowledge. Children are encouraged to review their successes in achieving the lesson objectives at the end of every session. As children progress throughout our school, they develop a deep knowledge, understanding an appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context. This can be acquired in various ways in our curriculum:

- As a major focus for a topic
- As themed days for classes and/or the whole school
- As a smaller element within the topic
- As a discrete lesson/talk
- As part of an assembly
- In discussion
- Through sharing stories
- In displays, both in the classroom and other areas around school
- As an integral part of residential visits

As a result, children have an excellent understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated. They have an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary. They are able to be fluent in complex, geographical enquiries and have the ability to apply questioning skills and use effective analytical and presentational techniques. They have the ability to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain findings. They are able to utilise fieldwork and other geographical skills and techniques. Above all they will 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 and 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.