

Kings Road CPS



Geography Policy

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Excellence without compromise



Kings Road Primary School

Geography Policy 2022

At Kings Road, we aim to ignite our pupils' curiosity and fascination about the world and its people through our Geography curriculum. Studying geography is an essential part of the curriculum as it allows our children to explore the relationships between the Earth and its people through increasing their understanding and appreciation of the golden threads of; place, space, similarity and difference, interdependence and interconnectedness. Through the study of different cultures and places, the pupils learn tolerance and respect for others. Geography is a 'doing' science and through engaging visits and outdoor learning we encourage our students to explore, enquire and explain; first their locality, before extending their understanding of their own country and then exploring the wider world.

There are four distinct strands of geography learning as set out in the National Curriculum. These are:

- Locational knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and Physical Geography
- Geographical skills and fieldwork.

Aims

The aims of Geography are:

- To ignite and inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.
- Equip pupils with knowledge of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments.
- To develop an understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments.
- To obtain geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enable children to explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.
- To develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places including their defining physical and human characteristics.



Curriculum

Content

The teaching of geography at Kings Road follows a cohesive long term plan to ensure the continuity and progression as required by the National Curriculum. A full breakdown of topics and key knowledge and skills taught can be found on our website in the Long-Term plan and Learning Ladders documents. Special thought has been given to the choice of places studied making links between our school and our children's previous experiences. We encourage teachers to deliver the subject by making explicit links between geography, history and science, while ensuring that the children know when they are being geographers. Some skills in geography benefit from being taught as stand-alone topics with the intention that once learned the children will be able to use these skills independently and make their own connections to geography. There is the expectation that at least one term (or two half terms) should have a Geography driver through our Ignite curriculum.

Accessibility

Each pupil is encouraged to work at age-related expectations and we aim to deliver lessons that are accessible to all of our pupils. At Kings Road, we activate the pupil's prior knowledge by recapping skills or revisiting knowledge that has been taught earlier in the pupils' school careers, this allows for high attaining children to deepen their previous learning and allows lower attaining and children with additional needs a chance to revisit skills they may not have yet mastered. Children with SEN or EAL are able to access the learning through having technical vocabulary prominently displayed in classrooms, in their books and pre-teaching of the vocabulary before the topic begins. Teachers also differentiate each lesson through activities, resources or support to allow those children to access the learning and achieve in the lesson. Teachers use a variety of teaching methods and resources to ensure that children with different learning styles are able to learn in the way that best suits them. Children who are higher attaining are given opportunities to deepen their learning through research projects and peer coaching. We ensure that meaningful opportunities to use and explore skills are offered to all children including trips, fieldwork, and the chance to explore a topic that interests them.

Assessment

Pupils' progress is assessed and monitored continuously by the teacher throughout the year on an informal basis through the marking of pupils books and projects. These judgements will inform the teacher of the pupil's current achievements and guide the teacher in planning future learning. At the end of each topic, teachers will assess the children against the 'I can' statements in their year group impact summary document. Parents and Carers will be informed of the teacher's judgement through yearly reports where a child may be meeting the expected, emerging towards or exceeding the age related expectations.

Impact

Provide enriching experiences

At Kings Road, we provide first hand experiences of the world through high quality visitors to the school, amazing excursions and meaningful fieldwork in the local area. By utilising the skills taught in



geography, we ensure that our pupils have the opportunity to make links between geography and other subjects.

Develop resilient individuals

Students at Kings Road become resilient individuals through our geography curriculum. Geography lends itself to open ended enquiries, where there is often not one 'correct' answer. We try to foster an environment where misconceptions are highlighted and explored in order to learn why we think that. We also value collaborative learning, where children learn to be team players and how to compromise.

Promote ambitious mind-sets

Geography promotes ambitious mind sets through open ended and high order questioning. Many of our geography topics begin with a question that requires children to explore a variety of features and issues before an answer can be delivered. The answers in geography are rarely simple and we provide the space for children to follow their own interests through a project of their own towards the end of their key stage.

Develop responsible citizens

At its heart, geography is the study of people and places. Through the exploration of other places in the UK and around the world, we promote tolerance and a mutual respect for other cultures – often that are different from what we experience first-hand in our day to day life. We hope that by learning about different cultures and places the pupils will develop their own curiosity about the world. Geography allows pupils to learn a number of skills that are important in life such as map reading, gathering information and forming opinions based on facts.

Provide a nurturing and safe environment

The geography curriculum at Kings Road allows children to ask questions and make mistakes, which are framed as a learning opportunity and a way to tackle stereotypes and bias. It teaches children to respect the world, its resources and its people. We provide safe and engaging experiences for the children locally through fully risk assessed local visits and further afield through visits off site to suitable locations.

Develop creative thinkers

Asking and answering higher order questions is a key component of the geography curriculum at Kings Road. There is a high degree of choice built into the curriculum for example a choice of question or a choice of presentation. There are many problems in the world, the study of geography highlights them and our children are encouraged to offer creative solutions to solve them. This is especially visible during our 'Mantle of the Expert' week each year.

Monitoring

The monitoring of the subject will take place as directed by the monitoring timetable throughout the year. Monitoring will be in the form of book looks, pupil voice discussions, discussions with staff and learning walks. The subject leader, in association with the curriculum coach and SLT, will carry out these tasks at appropriate times in the school year.

