



## **Geography Policy**

### **What is this policy for?**

This policy sets out how we teach Geography in line with the legal requirements of the National Curriculum 2014 and within The Early Years Framework revised 2023. It demonstrates how our provision for geography offers breadth and balance. It describes how our provision for geography contributes to our school pledge, which states that all pupils will explore the outdoors during the time they are in school.

### **The vision for Geography**

At Becket Primary we believe Geography is crucial to children's understanding of the world in which they live. It inspires children to think about their own place in the world, their values and their rights and responsibilities towards other people and the environment as Global Citizens.

### **When is Geography taught & learned?**

At Becket Primary School, we believe that Geography provokes and provides answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. 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.

We aim to equip our children with geographical skills to develop their curiosity and knowledge through studying places, people, natural and human environments. This seeks to deepen the understanding of the Earth's human and physical forms and processes. By nature, Geography is an investigative subject. We aim to provoke children to question and answer their own questions through exploration and research to enable them to gain a greater understanding of the world in which they live.

Our curriculum is spiral and progressive; designed to build year on year using prior knowledge learnt in earlier year groups. Key themes such as climate, rivers, settlement and contrasting locality are learnt and revisited with increasing complexity as children move up through the school.

### **How is Geography taught & learned?**

Geography is blocked and taught over two terms linked in a cross curricular way with English, art, music and PSHE to broaden opportunities and deepen learning

Geography is taught proportionately to the amount of content in the National Curriculum and the Early Years Framework, through the UTW strand.

Educational off-site visits are organised in a variety of locations to enable pupils to extend their knowledge of the world around them and develop key field work skills. It will include local walkways and woods, Weston-Super-Mare seaside and a strong focus on the immediate local area with progressively larger distances from the school site to enable an understanding of scale and different environments. We also named our houses after local rivers to increase cultural capital.



### **What do we learn in Geography?**

The content of the Geography Curriculum is ordered to ensure that it develops pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding progressively.

Through delivery of a knowledge engaged curriculum in geography, children learn about their local area and the physical and human features within it. They can compare their life in this area with that of other regions in the UK and the rest of the world. Children's spirituality is deepened through an appreciation of life in other cultures and a sense of wonder and fascination with the world.

In KS1, geography includes the study of the local area, the UK, a non-European locality and the weather.

In KS2, children learn map skills and study a region of the UK, a country in Europe, and a region of North and South America, comparing these places with their own locality. They learn about biomes, climate zones, rivers, fair trade and natural resources.

### **How do we measure success in Geography?**

Geography is not formally assessed but teachers assess whether pupils are able to work at and retain age appropriate knowledge as the year progresses. Teachers record whether pupils are working at, above or below the age expected goals. Children's learning is checked by the teacher via low stake quizzes in order to determine which knowledge has been retained and learned.

Children's work will evidence a broad and balanced geography curriculum and demonstrate an acquisition of identified key knowledge. In addition, supported by fieldwork, children will have acquired and developed key skills.

Children will be able to talk about their own place in the world, their values and their rights and responsibilities towards other people and the environment as global citizens.

### **Resources**

The school has a good range of resources which are stored centrally where everyone can access them. Each key stage has a set of age appropriate atlases to use with the children.

Subject leaders manage their subject resources and because funds are tight informs the Headteacher if additional resources are required.

### **Safety & Risk**

Risk assessments are made for every off-site visit, whether local or further afield. Where there is doubt guidance is sought from the education visits co-ordinator with reference to the relevant policy.

### **Community Involvement & Collaborations**



**We care. We learn. We achieve.**

Geography by its nature takes children out into the community to study the physical and human geography of the local area. This involves the local and wider community and children are made aware that they are ambassadors for the ethos and values of Becket Primary whilst they are out.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The geography team will monitor the standards of teaching and learning. This will occur through a range of activities of monitoring planning, observation of lessons, work sampling and pupil interviews.

Information gathered is shared with the leadership team and through the link governor for geography.

Policy written: October 2019

Policy reviewed: November 2023

Next Review date: November 2025

Ratified by the Local Governing Body: December 2023