

## Geography Policy

### **Rationale**

Geography is a subject that stimulates curiosity and imagination, as well as contributing to the cultural, social, spiritual and moral life of the children we teach. It provides a means of exploring, appreciating and understanding the world in which we live and how it has evolved. Developing geographical skills is essential as children live in a world that is wide open to them. With opportunities to travel and work in different cities and countries across the world, pupils need to use efficiently maps, charts and other geographical data from a wide range of sources. The opportunities for the children to carry out geographical enquiry are also of value. The geography curriculum places great importance on the interaction between the physical environment and the human environment. Many areas of study give opportunities to make children aware of these effects upon their surroundings, their own responsibilities and how they can contribute to improving the environment, however small that contribution might be.

### **Purpose**

Geography at Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery aims to:

- ◆ provide a geography curriculum that is interesting, broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated.
- ◆ 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 about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the earth's key physical and human processes.
- ◆ develop a growing knowledge about the world to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments.
- ◆ allow pupils to acquire and develop geographical knowledge, understanding and skills through both fieldwork and by using a range of sources; including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

### **Broad Guidelines**

1. Teaching across both key stages will allow children to develop their geographical skills as laid out in the new National Curriculum. These skills will be covered through:
  - ◆ Locational knowledge
  - ◆ Place knowledge
  - ◆ Human and physical geography
  - ◆ Geographical skills and fieldwork
2. All teachers will follow the school's curriculum map to ensure that the children receive a broad geography curriculum and that all areas of the National Curriculum are taught. Some classes are working on a two-year cycle; therefore areas of the geography curriculum will be spread and covered across the two years.
3. The core geographical skills for each key stage need to be taught, however teachers will make a judgement as to whether lessons will be taught as discreet geography or through cross curricular learning. In either circumstance, the lesson must have geography objectives as its main focus. This ensures that the progress for each child is measured against their geographical skills and not those in other subjects, for example literacy.
4. When planning, teachers will consider the school's progression in geography skills document, to ensure that children are provided with opportunities to progress in their geography skills.

### **Conclusion**

Geography is a valued part of the National Curriculum. At Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery, effective teaching of geography aims to equip children with the knowledge and understanding of the world around them, as well as helping them to establish their own place and recognise their responsibilities.

This policy directly links/relates to the Teaching and Learning Policy, SEN Information Report and English Policy.