

Geography

Intent

At Our Lady of Victories, we aim for a high quality Geography curriculum which inspires in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Our teaching equips pupils with knowledge about places and people; resources in the environment; physical and human processes; formation and use of landscapes. We also want children to develop geographical skills: collecting and analysing data; using maps, globes, aerial photographs and digital mapping to name and identify countries, continents and oceans; and communicating information in a variety of ways.

We want children to enjoy and love learning about Geography by gaining knowledge and skills, not just through experiences in the classroom, but also with the use of fieldwork and educational visits. Our teachers strive to make the learning accessible for all children to ensure a sense of pride and confidence in their subject matter; lessons are well resourced and thought out to ensure this.

In EYFS, we lay the foundation for developing the children's geographical skills by learning about the wider world as part of their curriculum. As they progress into Key Stage One, the pupils develop their understanding and knowledge by learning geographical place names and features. This is then built on throughout the school.

Implementation

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning in Geography, we have put in place a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. We ensure that the importance of Geography is understood by all by looking at the concepts which children need to understand and build our curriculum on them. For example, we use the local area to follow maps in Key Stage 1 and this progresses to comparing the similarities and differences in environments and communities in Lower Key Stage 2, through to debating world issues on the planet in Upper Key Stage 2.

Staff CPD is used to ensure that teachers have a secure knowledge of key geographical terms and skills. All class teachers are aware of what is being

taught in previous years and what the children are working towards at the end of Key Stage Two.

Resources

Each Key Stage is well resourced with globes, atlases and books so that the children are provided with the means that are integral to their learning.

Assessment

Class teachers assess children's understanding in Geography through a variety of means such as pre-topic quizzes, KWL grids, questioning, debating and end of topic quizzes. A wide variety of teaching approaches are used in Geography lessons to ensure the children make expected progress and are challenged to explore concepts in greater depth.

Children are encouraged to build on prior learning from previous years and topics. Targeted questioning at the start of lessons, provides opportunities for frequent retrieval practice. This allows teachers to identify those who require additional support and provide the necessary support to ensure that all children keep up with their peers.

Impact

The impact and measure of this is to ensure that children at Our Lady of Victories are equipped with geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world. The children will have a good understanding of the world around them and how it has been shaped. We want the children to have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Geography, therefore encouraging them to undertake new life experiences now and in the future.