



St Anne's School and Sixth Form College

Geography Policy

This policy was adopted in the Spring term 2013, and updated Autumn 2019

1. INTRODUCTION

This policy document is written after consultation with the teaching staff and Governor with responsibility for Geography and is presented to the Local Education Authority and the Governing Body in the Autumn term 2014, and reviewed by the Curriculum Co-ordinator in September 2017.

It is a working document, which reflects the ethos and practice within the school in relation to Geography.

Geography is concerned with the study of places, the human and physical processes which shape them and the people who live in them. It helps make sense of their surroundings and the wider world.

It has been written with due regard to the requirements of National Curriculum and its Programme of Study and it will be monitored and evaluated according to changes within these documents as and when they arise.

The Geography curriculum aims to support the development of the life-long learning skills identified at St. Anne's: Communication, Taking part, Choosing, Keep on trying, Working with others and By myself.

Outdoor learning opportunities are embedded in the Geography curriculum and evident in planning. Outdoor learning aims to enhance the delivery of lessons and supports the life-long learning skills identified at St. Anne's.

Curriculum Coordinator: Hendi Longman

Subject Leader: Jo Radley

2. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

The underlying principle is to provide a balanced and differentiated programme of activities that builds on previous experience, offering opportunities for individual and group work.

The Geography curriculum will:

- Help pupils develop skills and interests that will enable them to function competently in their environment.
- Offer pupils opportunities to understand the world they live in.
- Assist pupils to develop an understanding of their own environment and area, and its relationship to other parts of the United Kingdom, Europe and beyond.

- Aid pupils to develop geographical understanding and language.
- To help pupils develop enquiry skills based on experience and within their own limits.
- Allow pupils to understand and acquire specific geographical skills.
- Give pupils opportunities to develop environmental and aesthetic awareness.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The 'Geography' Co-ordinator will:-

- Promote the value of 'Geography' within the school.
- Liaise with the Head and Senior staff re: the development of 'Geography' within the school and the purchasing of additional equipment/resources.
- Maintain resources and make them available to all staff.
- Take responsibility for and liaise with all staff re: the suitability of documentation.
- Plan for the future of 'Geography' within the school, disseminating ideas to the Head, Senior staff and whole staff team for discussion.
- Monitor and evaluate teaching of Geography across school.
- Liaise with the Head, Assistant Head, Heads of Department and the whole staff team, in regard to staff training needs, through discussion.

The Geography co-ordinator will consult with the Management team in regard to staff training

4. PRACTICE

The Delivery of Geography

All pupils will be taught Geography at a level appropriate to their developmental understanding. The Geography modules have been based on KS1 POS (and where appropriate KS2) and the subject content from the 2014 curriculum framework though the amount of time on each target will vary according to the individual and group. Several elements will be repeated to allow for developmental progress and generalisation of skills learned.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Children develop the knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world. This forms the foundation for later work in Geography. Their work will be supported through offering opportunities for them to use a range of tools safely; encounter creatures, people, plants and objects in their natural environments and in real life situations; undertake practical experiments; and work with a range of materials.

Key Stage 1 and 2

Geography will be taught:-

- Through a topic based approach from a 6 year rolling programme of thematic units.

Key Stage 3

Geography will be taught:

- Through specific units of Geography focused work as designated in the Key Stage 3 Long Term Plan for Geography.

Key Stage 4 and 5

Although not obligatory in the National Curriculum terms Humanities will be taught to Key Stage 4 aged pupils:-

- Through elements of the pupil's individual programmes of work i.e. PSHCE and cross referenced to Geography as appropriate.

- Expressive Arts Award
- Through planned off site programmes of work.
- Practical Geography
- Tourism

Planning, Recording and Assessment

Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and 2

Geographical experiences and achievements will be recorded on pupil individual education programmes as appropriate and cross reference to the topic web and medium plan. Individual learning outcomes will be recorded as these and reported back to parents at each Annual Review/ EHCP's.

Assessments

Assessments are made over a period of time and are based on the evidence of more than one activity and reported on in the Annual Reviews.

This policy will be updated when necessary by the postholder/or curriculum co-ordinator who will make recommendations and amendments in consultation with the Management Team.

Each pupil's level of attainment is assessed against P Levels entered on an end of year assessment form. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, pupils' level of attainment is assessed against the Development Matters Statements and the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. Pupils in the PMLD group will be assessed on their 5 areas of learning. If applicable the information will be transferred onto P level assessments.

5. RESOURCES

All pupils are entitled to have a variety of motivating resources to encourage a broad and balanced Geography curriculum.

Resources include:

Educational visits

iPads

maps, globes, aerial photos

6. DOCUMENTATION

Teachers will record Geographical experiences for pupils and continually up date their records.

7. SPECIAL FACILITIES

Themed days in Key Stage 1 and 2 will incorporate Geography as well as planned visits

8. INSET

The CPD co-ordinator will advise staff on suitable courses and they will feedback to staff and evaluate the course they attended.

9. LIASON WITH OTHER SCHOOLS

St Anne's School and Sixth Form College is part of the Hunsley Partnership. The Heads meet on a regular basis to discuss ways forward e.g. inclusion and training. Liaison with other schools when possible.