

# Bidston Village C of E Primary School



*'Love Faith, Love People, Love Learning'*

**"It is I who made the Earth and created mankind upon it," Isaiah 45:12**

## **Whole School Geography Policy**

### **Intent**

At Bidston Village we believe that Geography stimulates and inspires curiosity and fascination about the world, and their place within it. Our Geography curriculum is designed to equip pupils with a meaningful skill set and understanding of the world around them, which will remain with them for the rest of their lives. At its heart, geography is an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. Throughout the primary phase, children are given the opportunity to explore a range of diverse places, people, resources and both natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

We aim to develop confident learners, through exposure to a range of practical experiences, which build their geographical knowledge, understanding and skills enabling them to explain how the Earth's features are shaped, interconnected and change over time. We also intend for children to become passionate and knowledgeable about our local community and beyond. Starting with the locality, we prepare the children for the 'wider world' using a variety of online and practical resources, including trips and fieldwork

### **Implementation**

At Bidston Village, the national curriculum is taught in conjunction with Curriculum Essentials, which has enabled us to develop, plan and deliver a rich curriculum that ensures skills and knowledge are built on year on year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.

Beginning in Foundation Stage, our pupils are given opportunities to discover and learn about the world they live in. The Geography element of the children's work is related to the Knowledge and Understanding of the World objectives set out in the

EYFS Curriculum. The children begin developing their knowledge, skills and understanding of the world around them. The Early Years Foundation Stage objectives will be taught through indoor and outdoor play, carefully planned activities and guided group

In Key Stage 1, Geography builds on previous learning and develops pupil knowledge, skills and understanding relating to their own environment and the people who live there and an awareness of the wider world, in accordance with the KS1 National Curriculum..

In Key Stage 2, Geography extends pupil knowledge, skills and understanding relating to people, places and environments in the United Kingdom and beyond, developing an appreciation of how places relate to each other and the wider world, in accordance with the KS2 National Curriculum.

Curriculum progression is clearly set out throughout the use of key 'Milestones' allowing children to develop and build on skills previously taught and is structured to allow frequent opportunities for children to revise and review key facts and knowledge. Our carefully planned curriculum starts with children learning first about their local area and then using this knowledge to expand to our wider country, Europe and then the world and beyond. We feel it is very important for our children to develop a strong sense of community and develop a passion about the conservation and preservation of our local environment. This is why we try to make use of our local environment, as much as possible, in our teaching. It is important for us to teach our pupils about how to respect their local and global environment and what they can do to help. It is our hope that this respect in turn will transfer a better understanding and appreciation for environmental issues affecting the wider world.

A strong focus for teaching is the use of correct technical vocabulary and teachers carefully plan the language they use during their sessions and model, through discussion, specific geographical vocabulary to help embed this language in the children's long term memory. We also plan opportunities for Voice 21 oracy sessions throughout our Geography curriculum to allow pupils to debate important geographical and environmental issues and express their opinions about the world they live in.

Spiritual, moral, social, and cultural factors are integrated where appropriate along with our church school ethos.

## **Impact**

The impact of our Geography curriculum at Bidston Village is that our learners are equipped with the geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the secondary curriculum and for life as an adult in the wider world. The children will be able to discuss their learning and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding through a range of activities. Outcomes in Geography books evidence a broad and balanced Geography curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of identified key geographical knowledge and a progression of skills.

Geography lessons inspire children's curiosity about the world around them whilst building a respect and interest in other cultures. Children will have a good knowledge of the physical and human aspects of Geography and will be able to use sources such as fieldwork, maps, globes and data to deepen this knowledge. Geography will also be an opportunity to use cross-curricular skills, for example in maths and science when using graphs, statistics and scales.

### **Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) /Pupil Premium/ Higher attainers**

Any children with identified SEND or in receipt of Pupil Premium funding may have work additional to and or adapted in order for those pupils to access the curriculum successfully dependent upon their needs. They will also have opportunities to work with their peers in pairs or groups to provide peer support when required. Teachers appropriately meet the needs of the children in their class using adaptive teaching methods which enable children to achieve learning outcomes. As well as this, our school offers a demanding and varied curriculum, providing children with a range of opportunities in order for them to reach their full potential and consistently achieve highly from their starting points.

### **Assessment and monitoring**

Assessment of Geography is carried out through marking of written work; through teacher observation of children during lessons and the progression of skills linked to the milestones in the Chris Quigley companion document. These milestones set out the end points to be achieved by the end of KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2.

Assessments are completed termly and teachers use National Curriculum expectations and the Chris Quigley milestones.

Our Geography curriculum is high quality, well thought-out and is planned to demonstrate progression. We focus on progression of knowledge and skills and

discrete vocabulary progression also forms part of the units of work. Children will deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes and how this affects landscapes and environments.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Assessing children's understanding of technical vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Images and videos of the children's practical learning.
- Interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice).
- Moderation staff meetings where pupil's books are scrutinised and there is the opportunity for a dialogue between teachers to understand their class's work.
- Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum.
- Marking of written work.

### **Educational Visits and Themed Days**

Educational visits and Themed Days play an important part in enhancing teaching and learning. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that enrichment activities are included within their medium term planning to ensure that children have the opportunity to gain real life experiences and complete work in the field, therefore enhancing their skill base, knowledge and understanding of the topic.

### **Resources**

The resources available include: reference books, textbooks, library loans, teacher prepared materials, pictures, photographs, maps and atlas's, globes, digital map referencing software. Resources will be kept in the Geography resource area and sometimes in classrooms.