

Vision & Intent

The intent of the Geography curriculum at Vernon Primary School is to provide every pupil with:

An excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like. An excellent understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.

An extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary. Fluency in complex, geographical enquiry and the ability to apply questioning skills and use effective analytical and presentational techniques.

The ability to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain findings.

Significant levels of originality, imagination or creativity as shown in interpretations and representations of the subject matter.

Highly developed and frequently utilised fieldwork and other geographical skills and techniques.

A passion for and commitment to the subject, and a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there.

The ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.

Cultural Capital

- Children are provided with opportunities to participate in local field walks, residential visits, visits to local areas of interest/significance and discussions of current affairs as part of the lessons children become engaged with the world around them at a local, national and international level.
- Children develop a sense of agency, responsibility and pride in their local community and can speak with confidence and in a knowledgeable manner about a range of geographical topics.
- Whole school days/events such as National Geography week and outdoor classroom day provides the children with opportunities to engage with national geographical concerns.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Residential visits are offered to all children in Key Stage 2 – here children explore new areas of the country, carry out various levels of field work and orienteering opportunities at each site.
- Local field walks are introduced from EYFS to Year 6 to allow children opportunities to explore and investigate their local area.

Planning & Delivery National Curriculum

Geography is taught using the National Curriculum as its starting point.



Learning Objectives & Knowledge Progression

The Geography Learning Objectives are in place to ensure that knowledge and outcomes for each year group are identified and covered, as well as progression tracked. A progression grid and long term plan also outline progression throughout the school. 'Kapow' is a resource used by teachers to support planning, teaching and assessment of Geography.



Short term planning

From the learning objectives, Short Term plans from 'Kapow' are adapted for each unit of work, outlining the sequence of learning in a series of lessons leading up to a final end point and study book piece. Short term planning identifies the learning objectives for each lesson, prior learning, key vocabulary and a description of key teaching points. SEND provision is outlined within these plans. Lessons are delivered weekly using varied, innovative and creative teaching approaches.

These steps are part of a continuous cycle of formative assessment, which informs future planning.

Geography at Vernon Primary School



Reading within Geography

- Reading descriptions of people, places and cultures - using maps, atlases, Geographical books, eLibrary, digital texts, Ipads and Chrome books.
- Map symbols, keys and legends, compass directions and directional language, place names and signs during fieldwork activities.
- Reading own and peers' maps, place names, descriptions of places.
- Research about places online for Geography projects and discovery.

Assessment, Progress & Evidence

Geography is assessed and tracked using our Foundation Subject tracking grid – children are assessed as Emerging (1), Expected (2) or Exceeding (3) based on the unit of work they have been taught. Evidence of learning is within each child's individual curriculum folder, a working file that shows progression against the learning objectives throughout a unit of work. A final piece of work (end point) is presented in each child's individual study book.

Assessment of Geography is achieved through:

- Discussion with children (Pupil voice).
- Observation of children.
- Study book work.
- Marking of work in Curriculum Files – written & verbal feedback.
- Kapow assessment resources and tools.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

- Annual Geography Subject Leader training led by external specialist – Chris Trevor delivered the most recent training.
- Subject leader cascades key information and latest developments during staff training sessions.
- Outstanding practitioners share expertise through observations and team teaching opportunities.

Resources

- Kapow is used as an online subscription resource to aid planning, teaching and assessment of Geography.
- A range of local maps/ordnance survey maps are available for classes to use when studying the locality of school/comparing this area to similar towns in other countries. These maps are also available for children to use when carrying out various fieldwork based activities.
- A class set of compasses are also available for field work and orienteering activities, along with weather/climate reading tools.
- Resources are audited at the end of each academic year, as well as regularly checked and organised appropriately for access.

Curriculum Values:

Creativity & Curiosity

Independence

Respect & Cooperation