



Geography at Northowram Primary School

Inspiring Success Beyond Expectation

Intent

At Northowram Primary School, through our Geography curriculum, we aim to expand geographical vocabulary, increase our children's knowledge and curiosity of the wider-world and promote high aspirations. Our desire is to create a knowledge-based curriculum that goes beyond national curriculum coverage of Geography as a good knowledge of places both locally, nationally and globally is critical to children's cultural capital and better prepares them for life beyond Northowram; this includes studies of Africa, New Zealand, The Pacific and further global studies. As they continue on their journey of Geography, we aim to foster a deep understanding of the subject that develops alongside their geographical skills. Our curriculum is broad and balanced and has an equal weighting of local study, national and international studies. We strive for our curriculum to build on prior learning and previously taught and acquired skills including map and atlas work, local studies and geographical thinking. We aim to deliver a curriculum where there are links between subjects to strengthen knowledge. For example, the study of British Isles and Northern Europe in Year 2 Geography develops children's understanding of Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in History in Year 3. Another example is the study of settlements in geography before invaders and settlers in Year 3.

Implementation

Geography has a high status in our school and is taught for one hour each week from KS1 – KS2; Geography is viewed as a core subject within our school. The children engage in lessons where wider reading is given, prior learning is recapped, vocab is taught, key knowledge goals are explained and discussed and children will apply their new learning to a range of tasks both to a range of tasks locally and internationally. For example the study of flooding in Brighouse and Hebden Bridge within British Issues in Year 6 and then into a study of North America. Our lessons are supplemented by quality texts and displays which are featured in all classrooms throughout school. Our Geography curriculum includes both theoretical aspects and fieldwork application. Each individual lesson has content that is scaffolded so that learning is inclusive, age-appropriate and that our high expectations are maintained. Our lessons are delivered with a clear structure of retrieval, new vocabulary practice, talk tasks and independent application of new learning.

Impact

By the end of KS2, our children will know more, understand more and remember more about Geography and the world in which they live. They will be motivated and inspired to continue their learning as they progress into KS3. Our children will develop a range of life skills, which they can use and develop beyond school life. Children will display confidence and enjoyment in Geography. Children will use and apply skills across the curriculum, making meaningful connections in purposeful contexts. Our engagement with the local environment ensures that children learn through varied and first-hand experiences of the world around them. Through various fieldwork activities, enquiry questions and themed units of work children will have the understanding that Geography impacts upon our lives daily.

Within Geography at Northowram Primary School, we measure the impact of our curriculum through monitoring work, listening to the children's attitudes about Geography through pupil voice interviews and by taking learning walks and whole-school book looks. We know that our children are passionate, enthusiastic and knowledgeable in terms of their Geography studies. Through weekly recap quizzes, end-of-unit quizzes and assessed written pieces, our children are able to evidence knowledge-based learning goals and a progression in geographical skills.