



SJF CURRICULUM

# Geography

INTENT | IMPLEMENTATION | IMPACT



23-24

## SJF VISION AND MISSION

Our vision is that every single member of our community will love, learn and grow together. This is achieved by:

- Celebrating what we are good at
- Challenging ourselves and doing our very best in our work
- Loving and respecting ourselves and each other
- Knowing that we are loved for being just how God made us
- Accepting that everyone is special

To achieve these aims all learners, staff, parents and Governors will work together.



## SJF CURRICULUM AIMS

- To provide an exciting curriculum that
  - enthuses, engages and motivates all children
  - fosters and encourages natural curiosity, enquiring minds and deep enthusiasm for learning
  - enables each child to thrive and achieve their full potential
  - empowers children to develop resilience and courage
  - embeds, in all children, the attitudes and behaviours necessary for them to be lifelong learners
- To provide a secure and safe environment so that all children can work, play and be encouraged to develop moral values and healthy respect for others
- To facilitate positive links to our children's cultural backgrounds and heritage
- To foster strong links between home and school, rooted in the conviction that parents/carers are the first educators, so that we enable. Encourage and support them to be active in their children's school lives and learning.
- To provide our children with an education that gives them with a solid foundation for the rest of their lives that enables them to grow to be happy and confident citizens, respectful of themselves and others – and with the personal qualities necessary to drive them forwards in the pursuit of their dreams and ambitions, including confidence, courage, motivation and resilience.

## INTENT

Our Geography curriculum has been designed to excite and enthuse our children so that they are able to develop a genuine sense of curiosity about our world and its many peoples, in order to help them to make sense of it and understand their place within it. Geography encourages enquiring minds. We want our children to ask questions and seek answers as they develop their knowledge of our natural and human world.

Children will be given opportunities to explore a range of places, both in the UK and across the world, deepening and extending – as they do - their geographical knowledge, skills and understanding of key concepts. This journey will be progressive, covering both human and physical processes. There will be a fluency so that learners are enabled to commit new learning and vocabulary to long-term memory that is also transferable to other areas of the curriculum.

Understanding and appreciating the diversity of places, people; environments – both natural and human; along with environmental issues linked to themes and familiar and unfamiliar places - our children will be welcoming to others and open to difference in our beautifully diverse world. Our aim is that this process will support their broader spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.



Opportunities to participate in fieldwork within the local area of Hackenthorpe and Sheffield provide children with real and relatable learning opportunities, to develop a sense of who they are, their heritage and what makes our local area unique and special. Fieldwork will help the children to develop a deeper understanding of research techniques and an ability to draw clear conclusions, based on the evidence available to them. This will enable them to develop a deeper understanding of their local area and city.

Our curriculum is language-rich, encouraging the use subject-specific vocabulary that children will use fluently when communicating their understanding to a range of audiences. This will be linked to key skills in other areas of the curriculum, especially English, Mathematics, History and Science. We aim to contribute and extend each child's cultural capital, challenge, increase their aspirations for the future, help them know more, want to learn more and remember more, to cement a life-long love of Geography and of world in which they belong.

## IMPLEMENT

Our SJF Geography curriculum is based upon the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England, which provides a solidly broad framework and outlines the knowledge and skills to be taught in each key stage. We plan on a one-year cycle to ensure that each year group covers the required objectives.

Our long-term overview maps the Geography topics to be studied in each term and at each key stage. In some cases, we combine the geographical study with work in other curriculum areas - especially History. At other times we arrange for the children to carry out a geographical study independently. British values and multicultural links are made throughout. Geography is taught specifically and discretely in three of our six terms each year, in every phase, but appropriate links are also made when relevant.

The key skills outlined for each year group should be covered within particular topics. These key skills have been organised to be progressive and to allow children to build upon prior knowledge and understanding. This will help them to deepen their understanding and ensure that new learning becomes embedded and committed to long-term memory.

Teachers plan a cycle of lessons for each topic which ensures progression and depth concentrating on the geographical skills for each age-group. This ensures that the curriculum is covered and the skills/knowledge is progressive from year group to year group.



We want our children to think as geographers, and to facilitate this, a variety of teaching approaches are used based on the teacher's judgements. Approaches include investigation; critical thinking and questioning; whole-class teaching; group discussion and using a range of resources including maps; photographs; use of the World Wide Web; and digital technology. Cross-curricular work will be planned to include: Mathematics, English, history and Art and Design, although this list is not exhaustive. Key vocabulary for each topic is on display.

Educational visits provide another great opportunity for teachers to plan for additional Geography learning beyond the four walls. Children have many opportunities to experience Geography on educational visits, exploring the local area of Hackenthorpe, Sheffield and further afield in Castleton in the Peak District.

Our 'International Week' provides another for children to learn about different countries. Over their time in school children will have studied countries across a range of continents. This week allows children to have a geography focus that allows cross curricular links across all areas.

The Headteacher's weekly 'citizenship' assembly includes a 'Country of the Week' focus with children being introduced to countries, considering their location, flora and fauna, culture, peoples, traditions and history.

## IMPACT

Our geography curriculum and teaching is high quality and well thought out. Our aim is that children will:

- leave at the end of Y6 excited about their world, understanding their place within it
- achieve age-related expectations in Geography at the end of each academic year
- use and apply knowledge and skills in discrete Geography lessons and across the curriculum
- will know more, remember more and understand more
- understand how geography 'happens' in their local area
- have a good understanding about the world around them and how it has been shaped
- begin to understand the wider world and the implications that we as citizens have on it
- be able to work independently and collaboratively to investigate, solve problems and explain the processes that they have taken/observed within a real-life context.
- Children will act as good citizens within their local community.

