

Castlefields Primary School Geography Statement

Intent

At Castlefields we believe that Geography helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. The Geography Curriculum at Castlefields is fully inclusive to every child regardless of their learning needs. Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum at Castlefields enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which are also used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; to promote the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. The curriculum is designed to help children to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable, throughout their time at Castlefields Primary and to their further education and beyond.

Implementation

Geography at Castlefields is taught in units throughout the year often linked with History, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. We have worked with B and C Educational to tailor a bespoke series of units for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 that:

- identify subject knowledge
- excite and engage learners through Geography
- give a specific Geography purpose
- plan through observed learning outcomes

We have identified the key knowledge and skills of each blocked topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. At the beginning of each topic and lesson, consideration is given to inspiring the children and to identify prior knowledge. Thought is given as to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated within each lesson, as well as how learners will be supported.

EYFS – In the Early Years curriculum the area of learning is Understanding the World which is a specific area of learning broken down into three areas. The area specific to Geography is The World.

Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about changes.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 pupils develop knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom and their locality. They understand basic subject-specific vocabulary relating to human and physical geography and begin to use their geographical skills, including first-hand observation, to enhance their locational awareness.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 pupils extend their knowledge and understanding beyond the local area to include the United Kingdom and Europe, North and South America. This includes location and characteristics of a range of the world's most significant human and physical features. Children develop their use of geographical tools and skills to enhance their locational and place knowledge.

Impact

Outcomes in learning journey books evidence a broad and balanced geography curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of identified key knowledge. Children review their successes in achieving the lesson objectives at the end of every session. Children also record what they have learned comparative to their starting points at the end of every topic. As children progress throughout the school, they will develop a deep knowledge, understanding an appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context. Geographical understanding, as well as children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development will be further supported by the school's link with international partner schools.

Book monitoring and learning walks by the co-ordinator take place in order to inform effectiveness of Geography planning and to check for progression and coverage.