

MOTTRAM ST. ANDREW PRIMARY ACADEMY



GEOGRAPHY POLICY

A high-quality Geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources, natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the framework and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Geography Definition for Pupils

Geography is the study of the Earth and all the places on it. It helps us learn about different lands, oceans, countries, and cities, as well as how people, animals, and plants live in those places. Geography also looks at weather, mountains, rivers, and how the world is changing over time.

Aims

- To encourage the development of contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics, and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.
- To ensure pupils understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- To enable pupils to develop competence in the geographical skills needed to:
 - collect, analyse, and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes.
 - interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
 - communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

- To encourage pupils to become global citizens, developing understanding of the wider-world and their place within it.

Implementation

Our Geography curriculum has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum. It is planned and taught throughout school in units of work where lessons are sequenced to build on prior knowledge. In both Key Stages, the children are taught as individuals, as small groups and as a class depending on the needs of the pupils and the requirements of the topic. When appropriate, technology such as computers, iPads, digital mapping programmes (such as Google Earth), videos, online immersive tools and Interactive Whiteboards will be used as learning tools to complement and enhance more traditional methods.

All pupils have equal access to the teaching in this subject area. All efforts are made to ensure that the material presented is not in any way discriminatory in nature.

Risk assessments for trips and fieldwork are completed to ensure the health and safety of all involved.

Role of the Subject Leader

The Geography Subject Leader has the responsibility of overseeing Geography within the school including:

- Leading the writing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policy and the curriculum.
- Monitoring the overall structure of the Geography curriculum.
- Ensuring appropriate resources are available and updating them within the limits of the budget and according to needs.
- Keeping up to date with developments in the subject and disseminating information to staff.
- Providing support and guidance to staff as needed.
- Attending courses relevant to professional development within their role as subject leader.

Monitoring

Monitoring the overall structure of the Geography curriculum is the responsibility of the subject leader. The quality of teaching, provision and outcomes will be monitored through the school's usual processes, including lesson observation, book looks and pupil voice.

Assessment and reporting

Assessments are recorded in the Balance assessment tool. Attainment and effort grades for Geography are included on each child's end of year report to parents.

Professional development and responsibilities

Each class teacher is responsible for the delivery of the Geography curriculum and overseeing the pupils' progress. In line with school priorities, teachers are provided with opportunities for development and training in connection with this subject area as appropriate.