



BIRCH COPSE PRIMARY SCHOOL
GEOGRAPHY POLICY

Version

Version: 1.1

Status

Good Practice

Introduction

This policy should be read in conjunction with the School's Teaching and Learning Policy statement which deals with matters common to all subjects. It was compiled by the Headteacher and staff, and approved by the governors.

Geography will be taught in accordance with the National Curriculum Programmes of Study and the QCA Schemes of Work. Progress will be monitored towards achievement at each level. Due regard will be paid to the advice received from the statutory bodies.

Aims and Objectives

Geography is taught in such a way at Birch Copse as to reflect the vision, aims and values of the school and with due regard to the Every Child Matters agenda.

Through the teaching of Geography, pupils will be encouraged to:

- a) develop graphical enquiry and skills
- b) develop knowledge and understanding of places
- c) develop knowledge and understanding of patterns and processes
- d) develop knowledge and understanding of environment change and sustainable development.

Planning and Organisation

Planning

Planning for Geography is carried out following the scheme of work, policy and guidance notes for Geography. These documents are the responsibility of the Geography subject leader. Subject leaders provide support for teachers, who work with reference to the National Curriculum to develop medium term plans. Class teachers are responsible for short term planning.

Pupils' experiences

Pupils will be encouraged to:

- a) develop a geographical vocabulary
- b) experience drawing and using maps and plans
- c) recognise the use of symbols on those maps
- d) gain some knowledge of the use of scale in map making
- e) collect relevant data during fieldwork and to display and interpret it
- f) gain knowledge of their immediate environment
- g) gain knowledge of people and places throughout the wider world
- h) formulate questions and seek answers about places using a variety of resources
- i) gain an understanding of and recognise changes in human and physical features

Cross-curricular links

Cross-curricular links are embedded in the planning, teaching and learning of Geography. Medium term plans are adapted and linked to topics where appropriate.

Information and Communication Technology

The use of ICT and the teaching of ICT should enhance, develop and support pupils' learning of Geography.

Homework

Appropriate homework will be set by the class teacher to enhance and develop children's learning in Geography following guidelines from the school's homework policy.

Equal Opportunities and Special Needs

Every pupil will be given equal opportunity to follow the National Curriculum or Foundation Stage Curriculum irrespective of their ethnic or linguistic background, gender, disability or religious beliefs. Children with Special Educational Needs will have full access to the Geography curriculum. Those identified as Able, Gifted and Talented in Geography will be given opportunities to develop their skills.

Assessment, Record Keeping and Marking

Assessment, record keeping and marking will be carried out according to the school's policies. In alignment with National Curriculum requirements, teacher assessment will be the basis by which the performance of pupils' achievement in Geography is assessed.

Monitoring

The monitoring of Geography will take the form of classroom observations, monitoring of planning, work sampling, learning walks and monitoring of displays. The subject leader is responsible for the monitoring of Geography. Evaluation of monitoring will take the form of a report to be shared with teaching staff and governors.

Other Policies and Documents

Please also refer to the following policies and documents:

School based:

KS1 and KS2 topic cycles, Assessment, Recording and Reporting policy, Able, Gifted and Talented policy, Special Education Needs policy, Marking policy, Homework policy, Health and Safety policy

Other:

National Curriculum, QCA Geography Scheme of Work

Role of the Geography Subject Leader

- To audit, order, organise and store resources appropriately
- To manage the Geography budget effectively
- Advise and support colleagues
- To raise awareness of any relevant training for staff
- To keep up to date with current thinking in the teaching and learning of Geography and keep staff informed of changes in the curriculum
- To keep the Geography subject leader's file up to date
- To monitor and evaluate Geography standards throughout the school
- To organise any school-wide events associated with Geography

Responsible officer

Geography Subject Leader

Date of last review: November 2014

Dates of amendments: 9th February 2010

Date of next review: November 2017