

Geography Curriculum Policy

Rationale

"Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future." Michael Palin

At Wybunbury Delves we aim to '*light the spark for a love of learning and of life*' and believe Geography is a subject which offers the very best opportunities to achieve this. **We adapt the SPARK approach to learning** to foster and maintain children's curiosity in the world around them.

Curriculum Intent

At Wybunbury Delves, we aim for a high quality geography curriculum which should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Our teaching equips pupils with knowledge about places and people; resources in the environment; physical and human processes; formation and use of landscapes. We also strive for children to develop geographical skills: collecting and analysing data; using maps, globes, aerial photographs and digital mapping to name and identify countries, continents and oceans; and communicating information in a variety of ways. We want children to enjoy and love learning about Geography by gaining this knowledge and skills, not just through experiences in the classroom, but also with the use of fieldwork and educational visits with key fieldwork trips giving opportunities for geographical skills to be harnessed and built upon across year groups.

Curriculum Implementation

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning in Geography, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Geography is taught within a topic-led approach to learning (although some learning has to be explicit in content), focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. At Wybunbury, we use Geography as a driver to propel our topic-led learning to engage and excite the children. Our whole school curriculum Examples include rainforest investigations in Year 5 and a human Geography focus on recycling within Year 3's Into the Forest topic. Our book-led approach lends itself to learning that is interesting and immersive, resulting in eager, enthusiastic learning within each Geography lesson across each class.

Curriculum & School Organisation

Coverage of Geography in each year group is integrated where possible into termly Study Work plans. Medium term planning is incorporated into termly holistic plans. Planning for learning and a sample of learning outcomes can be evidenced through staff planning documentation, smart board files, website news, children's books (including Study Work Books) and photographs. We aim to teach Geography as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. We seek every opportunity to develop Geography with cross curricular links to Maths, Literacy, Computing and Design and Technology and any other subject when suitable. See 'Geography Skills Progression' document and the 'Geography Subject Overview Table' for further detail.

Teaching and learning style

Geography teaching at Wybunbury Delves focuses on maintaining curiosity. In every series of lessons, we aim to give children opportunities to ask questions about the world they live in.

Geography is linked to study work topics where possible. However, where links might be considered tenuous, it will be taught as a discrete subject. Where work is cross curricular, children may experience Geography through:

- Enquiry based research
- Use of data – statistics, graphs, pictures and photographs
- Computing to gather research, find or present information
- Role play
- Problem solving
- Outdoor education and visits
- Literacy and Numeracy lessons
- Links to other subjects
- Current affairs

Equality and Inclusion

All pupils regardless of gender, cultural heritage, race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or special needs, will be given the opportunity to experience and acquire skills according to the National Curriculum. We believe that we should aim to create an environment in which all children learn to respect and value each other and each other's interests. This can be achieved by employing the following strategies:

- Mixing groups in terms of gender and ability.
- Setting suitable learning challenges.
- Structuring activities so all are fully involved. For instance, all children must have a 'job/role' within an activity to ensure everyone takes part and is involved.
- Responding to the diverse learning needs of pupils.
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups.
- Considering the needs of children with physical or learning difficulties and taking the necessary steps (by enlisting extra help, adapting equipment or differentiating tasks) to ensure they have equal access to the curriculum.
- Giving all the children an opportunity to share their work. For instance, allowing time at the end of a lesson for the whole class to perform a role play, share their ideas or work with the class.
- Recognising the need to extend and provide a greater challenge for more able pupils.

Curriculum enhancement opportunities

School visits with links to Geography, visitors to school, Geography experiences during study work theme days and whole school projects all provide further opportunities to participate in Geography. Key fieldwork includes Y6's visit to Carding Mill Valley and trips to Wybunbury Moss by both KS1 and KS2.

Curriculum Impact

The impact and measure of this is to ensure that children at Wybunbury Delves are equipped with geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world and that a love of geographical learning is instilled into each and every child.

Curriculum Risk Assessment

Staff are asked to use professional judgment with regard to pupil safety in individual lessons. Where it is deemed necessary, individual lesson risk assessments will be completed. The pro forma for this is in the Subject Leader folder on the t:drive.

Links with other subjects

We seek every opportunity to develop Geography with cross curricular links to all areas of the curriculum when appropriate.

Reviewed by R Pointon October 2020