



St. Francis Xavier's RC Primary School

Love one another as I have loved you

Geography Policy

Our Mission

Share God's love with one another

Follow your dreams

Excel in citizenship

Our Mission is to:

- Be a witness to the values, teaching and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church
- Promote achievement and enjoyment for all
- Expect the best for individuals
- Inspire learning
- Collaborate with the community
- Promote a healthy and safe life style
- Create a sustainable school
- Continually strive to be effective

Intent

A St. Francis Xavier's pupil will:

- Demonstrate an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like.
- Understand how places are interdependent and how human and physical environments are interrelated.
- Show an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary enabling them to speak eloquently about people and places.
- Develop the ability to enquire geographically, applying questioning skills and using effective analytical and presentational skills.
- Provide clear conclusions and develop reasoned arguments to explain their findings.
- Apply geographical skills during fieldwork and show a real sense of curiosity about the world and the people who live there.
- Demonstrate excellent knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.

Implementation

What does our Geography Curriculum look like?

Please refer to:

LTP: to demonstrate the progression of knowledge and skills within the whole school geography offer.

Unit plans for years 1 to 6 outline the sequence of learning for the progression of knowledge and skills within the geography curriculum. To support the curriculum, St Francis Xavier' School has developed 'ROCKS' (Remembering our Curriculum Knowledge and Skills) cards to help the pupils know more, remember more and do more to alter their long term memory.

MTP for each year group: to map teaching and learning, knowledge and skills through a topic.

'Knowledge organisers': summarise the key knowledge and skills to be acquired and retained during a geography topic.

Organisation

In our curriculum geography is taught both as a discrete subject and within an integrated topic approach linking it with other areas of the curriculum such as literacy and history.

The Curriculum

Foundation Stage

In the foundation stage geography is taught through the area 'Understanding of the World: people and communities/The World.'

During Foundation Stage pupils:-

- Show an interest in different occupations and ways of life.
- They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.
- Know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.
- Talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.
- They explain why some things occur and talk about changes.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

By following the National Curriculum (2014) the children will be taught to:-

- Develop the skills of questioning, enquiry, observing and interpreting, organising and communicating findings, drawing conclusions and identifying cause and effect.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of place, through an enquiry based approach.
- Develop curiosity about the things children observe, experience and explore relating to the world around them.
- Apply key skills to enhance their understanding of geographic concepts.
- Use appropriate geographical vocabulary to communicate ideas.
- Develop a respect for the environment and an understanding of how human activity impacts on these things.
- Develop children's skills of investigation and to enhance their knowledge of how the world is constructed from their earliest experiential play within the Foundation Phase to more sophisticated whole studies by the end of Key Stage 2.

Strategies for the Teaching of Geography

The working modes of geography will vary and will be most appropriate to the planned learning outcomes of the lesson.

Children will be taught:

- As a whole class
- In groups (sometimes differentiated by ability)
- In pairs or individually

They will work:

- As a whole class
- In groups (sometimes differentiated by ability)
- With a partner or individually

Inclusion

The school promotes equal opportunities and fairness of distribution of all resources.

Assessment, Record Keeping, Reporting

Most assessment is formative and is used to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. The teacher assesses the children's progress based on their achievement of the learning objectives in lessons. Work is marked in line with the school marking policy. End of unit quizzes and recall using ROCKS cards, further supports the teacher's formative assessment.

Using formative assessment, the teacher uses their professional judgement to assess at the end of a unit of work, whether a pupil is above ARE (age related expectations), at ARE, or below ARE and records their judgment on the subject assessment excel spread sheet on shared staff.

Monitoring

Monitoring is carried out by the headteacher, a member of the senior management team or the geography coordinator, in the following ways:

- Informal discussion with staff and pupils
- Work sampling
- Classroom observation

Evaluation/review

The subject leader will report to the governing body on the progress of the children in geography. The subject leader will meet with the designated governor to discuss and monitor the success of the teaching in geography.

This policy was updated May 2024. The policy was adopted by the Standards and Curriculum Committee of the Governing Body of St Francis Xavier's RC Primary on 20th May 2024. This policy will be monitored every two years.

Signed: *Sylvia Cockroft*

Date: 20.5.24

Chair of Standards and Curriculum Committee

Signed: *Diana Pearce*

Date: 20.5.24

Headteacher

Geography Subject Leader Jo Clark
May 2024