



Montalbo Nursery and Primary School

Geography Policy

Introduction

In our school, we aim to inspire passion, curiosity and a fascination with the world around us, that will last for the children's lives. Geography is taught across the school as a distinct subject so that children know that geography is the study of places, people, resources, natural and human environments and human and physical processes and that geographers use a variety of specific and general skills and techniques to investigate these topics. Our Geography curriculum has been designed to build on previous understanding and knowledge, which is purposefully inter-leaved throughout the children's geographical journey. The children experience geography firstly as part of their local area, then the UK, Europe and the wider World.

We believe that through teaching Geography in this way, we are equipping the children with the ability to more readily understand the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. With this knowledge and understanding they will then be able to understand how the Earth's features (at different scales) are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of our Geography curriculum are:

- To provide opportunities for children to ask and answer geographical questions to secure and further their understanding.
- To provide opportunities for children to build on previous knowledge, to promote their 'sticky knowledge'.
- To provide children with opportunities to collaborate on tasks, activities and presentations
- To enable children to develop new geographical skills and insights that build on their past knowledge and to prepare them for future learning.
- To provide opportunities for children to use their geographical understanding and to apply this in a variety of contexts and situations, for example, comparing human and physical features of different regions or making links between human and physical geography (environmental geography)
- To help children understand their local geography by providing opportunities to explore their local surroundings and complete fieldwork studies.
- To ensure that children are able to use geographical resources effectively and efficiently and for a specific purpose, including maps, atlases, globes, aerial photo's and compasses

Geography Lessons

Geography is taught in hourly sessions in the first half of each term. In each lesson, links are made between previous learning and geographical skills and knowledge previously taught. Teachers ensure that each lesson is clearly linked to a geographical skill and that lessons are planned in sequences that provide children with the opportunities to review, remember,

deepen and apply their understanding. In each unit of work, teachers use a wide variety of geographical resources and sources. Wherever possible local resources, trips and visitors are engaged with.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment is both formative and summative. Formative assessments are used in each lesson to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. Summative assessments are completed at the end of a unit of work by the class teacher and focus on map skills, human and physical geography, place and locational knowledge, geographical skills and fieldwork. Learning is revised and revisited regularly to embed the geography curriculum and to ensure that knowledge is inter-leaved. Marking is completed in line with the school marking policy.

Monitoring

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

- Informal discussion with staff and pupils.
- Planning scrutinies and monitoring of accurate assessment
- Continuous book sampling.
- Learning walks
- Classroom observation.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in September 2022.