

# Curriculum Intent – Geography

The aim of Geography teaching here at St Veronica's is to stimulate children's interest in developing their awareness of physical and human processes to deepen their knowledge of the world. Teaching of Geography gives children knowledge of diverse places, people, resources and natural/human environments. Geography is an exciting relevant subject which can be seen in action in the daily lives of our pupils and we want our children to be curious about the world in which we live, developing a sense of belonging. Through cross curricular links, pupils are able to see the subject in the context of themselves and the lives of the community around them and the wider world, developing their ideas of global citizenship.

***'We use opportunities to explore and learn'*** – our curriculum is a purposeful and memorable experience with opportunities for all children to develop as individuals; to be confident and resilient learners by promoting high expectations and standards in Reading, Writing, Maths and all subjects.

Our Geography curriculum is aimed at giving all pupils skills and knowledge to become confident geographers. Through their work in geography children learn about their area and compare their life in this locality to other regions in the United Kingdom and in the rest of the world. Through high quality texts, children will develop their vocabulary which will be applied across all subjects. They will learn how to draw and interpret maps and they develop the skills of research, investigation, analysis and problem- solving. Through their growing knowledge and understanding of human geography children gain an appreciation of life in other cultures. Geography teaching also motivates children to find out about the physical world and enables them to recognise the importance of sustainable development for the future of mankind.

***'Never overlooking the needs of others'*** – our curriculum is rooted in principles of Catholic social teaching (as per the teachings of Pope Francis); encouraging all children to have high aspirations and make positive contributions to their community and wider global society, becoming advocates for social justice.

Within the Geography curriculum, the children will gain knowledge and understanding of places in the world thus making them more aware of our ever-changing world and their place within it. As our children move through the school they begin to understand the impact of humans on society and develop their own sense of awareness on a larger scale, developing in the children the want to make a change for the better. We want to increase children's knowledge of other cultures and, in doing so, teach a respect and understanding of what it means to be positive citizens in a multi-cultural country. Our Geography curriculum will enable children to know and understand environmental problems and world events at a local, regional and global level, becoming critical thinkers and advocates for greater social justice where there is inequality or negative change.

***'Secure in the love of Jesus'*** – our curriculum is child centred; providing opportunities for SMSC from which all children learn and develop a range of skills which they will need in order to succeed in life.

We offer children in our school many opportunities to examine the fundamental questions in life through the medium of geography. For example, their work on the changing landscape and environmental issues leads children to ask questions about the evolution of the planet. We encourage the children to reflect on the impact of mankind on our world and we introduce the concept of 'stewardship' in relation to sustainable development. Through teaching about contrasting localities we enable the children to learn about inequality and injustice in the world.

We help children to develop their knowledge and understanding of different cultures so that they learn to avoid stereotyping other people and acquire a positive attitude towards others. We help contribute to the children's social development by teaching them about how society works to resolve difficult issues of economic development. Geography contributes to the children's appreciation of what is right and wrong by raising many moral questions during the programme of study.

***'We recognise that each one of us is special'*** – our curriculum is respectful, all children respect themselves, each other and people of all faiths race and gender. The curriculum gives each pupil an opportunity to find their strengths and interests.

Children will experience Geography as a discrete lesson within topic work ensuring the skills are key to effective learning. Children will come across cultural diversity and become aware of the environment around them which will develop strengths and interests, giving meaning to this subjects as they move through school.

***‘Respecting everything God had made’*** – our curriculum promotes stewardship. We show humility, care and respect for all living things.

Through considering conditions and processes of human and physical geography and through cross-curricular links, children are able to see the subject in context of themselves and the lives of the community around them and the wider world, developing their ideas of global citizenship. Children will understand the significance of our one world, our common home, united as one.