

## **John Randall Primary School and Nursery**

### **Statement of Intent for Geography**

#### **Intent**

##### **Why do we teach this? Why do we teach this in the way that we do?**

The National Curriculum for geography aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.
- Understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- Are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
  - Collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes.
  - Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
  - Communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

At John Randall Primary School we pride ourselves on a rich and engaging geography curriculum which promotes a sense of respect and value for the world. Our geography curriculum is intended to be ambitious and designed to give all pupils, regardless of background, the equal opportunity to gain the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life and in future education. Our geography topics are based on the fundamentals outlined within the National Curriculum (2014) and are designed to ensure the progressive development of geographical concepts, knowledge and skills. Furthermore, we strive to promote an appetite and fascination about their planet that will carry them through future studies and provide all children with the skills and knowledge to understand and engage with both the human and physical aspects of life on Earth. The geography curriculum through the school is designed to build every year on children's previous learning with each geography topic linking to and reinforcing understanding of our planet, its people and its environment.

#### **Implementation**

##### **What do we teach? What does it look like?**

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in geography, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school and therefore designed to help the children to build upon and recall previous knowledge and skills in the long term.

The geography leader ensures that teachers' subject knowledge is appropriate through regularly evaluating planning and outcomes from pupil conferencing and book looks as well as discussions

with colleagues. This results in the leader working closely with any member of staff who needs assistance or support with their subject knowledge and/or improving and adapting the curriculum where needed. The leader also provides pointers, ideas and relevant resource pools for all members of staff to ease workload and assist with planning and engagement with the subject knowledge they are being asked to teach.

As aforementioned, the geography curriculum at John Randall Primary School is based upon the 2014 National Curriculum in England, which provides a broad framework and outlines the knowledge and skills taught in each key stage. Teachers plan lessons for their year groups using our progression of knowledge document, matching each piece of knowledge to a lesson where the children's understanding of their current topic area is built upon. At our school, geography is challenging yet accessible to all, our lessons and activities are planned and taught to suit a range of abilities ensuring that all children can learn at a pace and level that is appropriate to their needs.

Opportunities for geography learning take place both inside and outside of the classroom at John Randall Primary School. Trips and fieldwork appropriate to their topic that sparks curiosity and engagement in the study of geography are booked and organised for every year group. Plus, teachers are encouraged to plan fun, intriguing activities for their topics that take the children away from their desks and out of their classrooms. Each geography topic starts with a teacher made concept map to gauge pupils understanding and knowledge prior to an area of study and then this is revisited at the end of a topic to assess pupil development, understanding and progression. We actively encourage learning to regularly take place out of the classroom using our extensive outdoor areas. We also have the opportunity to incorporate food into our educational offer through working with the professional chefs in school. We aim to broaden the children's palate and horizons through experiencing world foods linked to their topics on a regular basis.

### **Impact**

#### **What it will look like? By the time the children leave our school they will:**

The geography curriculum at John Randall Primary is of a high quality, well planned and demonstrates progression. The impact of this is measured through the following methods: assessing children's understanding of topic vocabulary through pupil conferencing with the subject lead, images and videos of the children's practical learning, moderation of children's work within their books – 'book looks', staff meetings with an opportunity to scrutinise and discuss children's progress and outcomes, marking of written work in books and annual reporting of standards across the geography curriculum. Children will leave John Randall Primary School with a good understanding of the geography of the United Kingdom alongside the continents and countries of the world. They will also be able to talk with confidence about physical and human geography; their locality compared to others around the world; use both online and paper maps effectively; and sustainability including the climate crisis. This will give them a good foundation for their secondary learning alongside their understanding of the world around them and how people all around our planet live.