

Geography Curriculum Statement:

Balshaw Lane Community Primary School

Geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments. Geographers explore both the physical properties of Earth's surface and the human societies spread across it... Geography seeks to understand where things are found, why they are there, and how they develop and change over time. It also the study of people; of human activity as it affects and is affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources and political and economic activities.

INTENT

The Geography curriculum at Balshaw Lane aims to give children the tools, capability and confidence to explore and engage with their locality and wider world. It urges them to ask and answer questions about the world, the environment, the economy, trade, physical and human geography, places and processes. It gives them an insight into life for people outside of the own vicinity, and the similarities and differences between themselves and others. By the time children leave Balshaw Lane they will have a greater understanding of the world and the geographical skills needed to explore it.

IMPLEMENTATION

Balshaw Lane utilises both the National Curriculum and the Lancashire Key Learning Indicators of Performance when planning its Geography curriculum. Units of study are placed to most suit children's development of Geographical knowledge and skills and to best fit with the curriculum connectors in order to give a wider and more grounded knowledge of the subject and its place in the wider curriculum. For example, a unit on volcanoes and earthquakes alongside the Stone Age showing how the earth moved and changed throughout this period of history or studying an African mountain range whilst learning about the kingdom of Benin in History and English. The curriculum at Balshaw Lane also aims to give children enriching geographical experiences and skills such as using map skills and fieldwork to plan and undertake a walk around Rivington. Children also have the opportunity to explore the local environment and wider world through enrichment weeks linked to Science and the environment. Year 6 also have an annual residential to Patterdale in the Lake District, where they are given the opportunity to partake in numerous extra-curricular activities which enhance their knowledge of the world around them. Within class children partake in thoughtfully planned series of lessons, which enhance their

geographical skills of enquiry and investigation, fieldwork, mapping, communication, ICT, locational/place knowledge and all aspects of physical and human geography.

IMPACT

The impact of our Geography curriculum and the skills and knowledge acquired by children is assessed using a variety of methods each term such as book looks, pupil voice questionnaires, teacher feedback within lessons and annual geography assessments to consider locational knowledge within school. Staff training is also provided in areas that staff aren't as confident teaching such as fieldwork and mapping.