



GEOGRAPHY POLICY

Subject Leader

David Hoyle

2025

Intent:

At Golden Hill Short Stay School, Geography Education should be fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Geography; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum; ensuring the progressive development of geographical concepts, knowledge and skills; and for the children to develop a love for geography. Furthermore, we aim to inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. (*The 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England*)

Geography teaching at Golden Hill Short Stay School has a wide application to everyday life, teaching the children to enjoy learning about the world and to have a better understanding of how people live in different locations.

The aims of teaching Geography in our school are:

- to inspire pupils' curiosity to discover more about the world.
- to enable children to know about the location of the world's continents, countries, cities, seas and oceans.
- to develop in children the skills of interpreting a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
- to help children understand how the human and physical features of a place shapes its location and can change over time.
- to provide opportunities to study mathematics across the curriculum through geography lessons.

Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) / Pupil Premium / Higher Attainers

All children will have Quality First Teaching. Any children with identified SEND or in receipt of pupil premium funding may have work additional to and different from their peers in order to access the curriculum dependent upon their needs. As well as this, our school offers a demanding and varied curriculum, providing children with a range of opportunities in order for them to reach their full potential and consistently achieve highly from their starting points.

Implementation:

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in Geography, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Geography is taught throughout the school for a minimum of 1 half term per academic year, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. At Golden Hill Short Stay School, we ensure that Geography has the same importance given to it as the core subjects, as we feel this is important in enabling all children to gain 'real-life' experiences.

The Geography curriculum at Golden Hill Short Stay School is based upon the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England, which provides a broad framework and outlines the knowledge and skills and taught in each Key Stage.

Teachers plan lessons for their class using our progression of knowledge and skills document. Teachers can use this document to plan their Geography lessons suitable to their

class's interests and what they want to learn. The progression document ensures the curriculum is covered and the skills/knowledge taught is progressive from year group to year group.

When teaching Geography, the teachers should follow the children's interests to ensure their learning is engaging, broad and balanced.

Geography teaching focuses on enabling children to think as Geographers. A variety of teaching approaches are used based on the teacher's judgement.

Educational visits are another opportunity for the teachers to plan for additional geography learning outside the classroom. At Golden Hill Short Stay School, the children have had many opportunities to experience Geography on educational visits. The children have explored the local area including orienteering within the school grounds. Local museums also provide an opportunity to further geography learning, as well as trips to local woods, castles and using map reading skills during residential trips.

In the academic years 2024-25, it was decided that a 2 year cycle would be required as pupils are remaining at Golden Hill for increasingly longer periods of time. In order to facilitate this, units from Grammarsaurus have been used. After a unit has been taught, staff will adapt and amend planning in order to make sure that they meet the needs of the pupils at Golden Hill.

Impact:

Within Geography, we strive to create a supportive and collaborative ethos for learning by providing investigative and enquiry-based learning opportunities. Emphasis is placed on investigative learning opportunities to help children gain a coherent knowledge of understanding of each unit of work covered throughout the school.

Our Geography curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. We focus on progression of knowledge and skills and discreet vocabulary progression also forms part of the units of work.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Assessing children's understanding of topic linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Summative assessment of pupil discussions about their learning.
- Images and videos of the children's practical learning.
- Interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice) carried out by the subject leader
- Reporting of standards across the curriculum.
- Marking of written work.
- Subject tracker