

Geography – Curriculum Design

“The study of geography is about more than just memorising places on a map. It’s about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it’s about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together.”

Barack Obama

Purpose of Study

A high-quality geography education should 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. As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth’s features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time

What are the aims of the subject?

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

Geography at Rodbourne Cheney Primary School

At Rodbourne Cheney, we want to ensure that our geography curriculum is fascinating, inspiring and able to provoke a sense of curiosity amongst our pupils in order to enable them to learn and gain an appreciation about the natural and human worlds around them. We aim to equip pupils with knowledge and understanding about diverse places, people, resources and natural, human and physical environments. Throughout the school year, we provide a number of geography based whole-school topics that have been designed to make cross-curricular links in children’s learning. As pupils



progress, we seek to provide them with a deep understanding and a range of knowledge, including key vocabulary so that children are confident and able geographers.

We provide a number of opportunities for geographical resources to be incorporated into pupil's learning and we endeavour to provide educational visits to geographical sites to promote the knowledge and love of learning of geography in our pupils. Our curriculum will aim to inspire, engage facilitate our children to become inquisitive, resilient and challenging thinkers and active global citizens with the confidence to use, and build on, their cultural capital, learning and experiences - both inside and outside of the classroom. We believe this all of these things will ensure our children are equipped with the skills of a geographer and be well prepared for the next stage of their education.

Themed immersion lessons ensure that our children are enthused by geography and vocabulary starters at the beginning of each lesson mean that children learn more and remember more as we revise and build on past learning experiences.