

SINAI JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
 'Big School, Big Heart, Big Opportunities'

GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM

INTENT

We aim to equip students with a profound understanding of both their local surroundings and the wider world, fostering an environment where curiosity about diverse places, people and cultures thrives, leading to the development of well-rounded, responsible individuals. By integrating critical observation, communication skills and the ability to analyse and synthesise geographical information, we prepare our students for a lifetime of exploration and discovery. Our curriculum underscores the importance of social responsibility, urging students to consider their impact on the world and to act in ways that support the well-being of all societies and the sustainability of the planet.

IMPLEMENTATION

In EYFS, children start developing geographical knowledge by using maps and atlases to explore different places. They learn to compare and contrast various environments, from local areas to those abroad. This exploration begins with our local area in KS1 and expands to include the UK, Europe, and the wider world by KS2, creating a scaffolded learning journey that builds a deep understanding of geography. Key vocabulary is emphasised in each lesson, enabling students to actively apply new terms. We use a range of sources to broaden students' perspectives, with a significant writing task in each unit to enhance their comprehension and analytical abilities. The curriculum promotes British Values and integrates a lesson on social responsibility each term, highlighting the importance of contributing positively to society. Lessons on different countries meticulously explore geographical locations, cultural practices and comparisons with the UK, boosting students' global awareness. Fieldwork opportunities are woven into the curriculum, providing practical experiences that improve observational and analytical skills. Through this approach, we aim to equip students with essential geographical knowledge and life skills, preparing them for responsible global citizenship.

IMPACT

At Sinai, our children are knowledgeable, curious and socially responsible students. Through their studies, students gain a nuanced understanding of geography as a discipline that spans local, national and global perspectives. They emerge as confident learners, equipped with the skills to ask critical questions, engage in thoughtful discussions and make informed decisions about their place in the world. Our students develop a sense of responsibility towards the environment and an appreciation for cultural diversity, preparing them for active participation in a global society. By fostering a resilient and open attitude towards learning, we ensure that our students are well-prepared to continue their geographic explorations beyond the classroom, carrying with them a lifelong commitment to understanding and improving the world around them.

BIG OPPORTUNITIES

Our geography curriculum offers students a rich tapestry of learning experiences, extending far beyond the traditional classroom setting. Field trips around Kingsbury enable students to apply classroom knowledge in real-world contexts, conducting investigations that explore the interconnection between human activities and the natural environment. Whether it's mapping local ecosystems, studying land use patterns or assessing environmental sustainability efforts, these experiences are invaluable in bringing geography to life. Our curriculum is further enriched by immersive curriculum days dedicated to exploring different countries. These days are a celebration of global diversity, where students are transported to other lands through the exploration of music, food, language and customs. Such immersive experiences cultivate a deep appreciation for cultural differences and global interconnections, enhancing students' global awareness and empathy. Incorporating resources like compasses and atlases alongside digital tools empowers students with essential navigational skills and spatial awareness, making them adept at interpreting maps and navigating spaces.

KEY CONCEPTS, KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Key Concepts: Interconnection, Diversity, Place, Sustainability, Environment, Space

Our concepts allows students to understand the complex relationships between humans and the Earth. They explore how different communities and environments are interconnected, appreciating the rich diversity of cultures, landscapes and ecosystems around the globe. Through studying specific places, students gain insights into geographical features and human influences shaping those areas. Sustainability is a core focus, where learners are equipped with knowledge and skills to appreciate and contribute to the Earth's long-term health. They delve into environmental studies, understanding the impact of human activities and natural processes on the planet. The concept of space allows students to grasp geographical location and spatial distribution across the Earth's surface. Our curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving and the use of technology in geographical investigations, preparing students to engage with the world as informed and responsible global citizens.

ASSESSMENT

Our geography assessments are tailored to actively engage students in applying their geographical knowledge at various stages. In KS1, children tackle a series of knowledge-based questions to demonstrate skills like map reading, compass use and location identification, supplemented by drawing, labelling (with word banks) and sentence writing to express their understanding. Knowledge organisers support this by providing a clear reference of key facts and terms. Each student also faces a challenge question to extend their learning. In KS2, the assessment includes 5-10 subject knowledge questions and an essay-style question to apply unit knowledge. Teachers are equipped with assessment exemplification materials for accurate evaluation and are required to enter termly data into Arbor, maintaining a consistent approach to tracking and supporting students' geographical education.