



St Charles Catholic School
Geography Long-Term Plan 2025-2026

Year	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Nursery	<p style="text-align: center;">People and places and the world we live in: In EYFS children begin to develop their geographical knowledge by exploring features of their school and nursery. They begin to compare and contrast different places and environments using maps and atlases.</p>		
EYFS			
Year 1	<p style="text-align: center;">Where I live</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: Is where I live the same as Blu?</p> <p>This unit helps Year 1 pupils understand where they are, beginning with their school, classroom, home and local area, and developing simple map-drawing skills. Pupils then explore life in Brazil through the character of Blu, comparing homes, local areas, weather and schools to recognise similarities and differences between places around the world.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Beside the seaside</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: What will we find beside the seaside?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to the UK seaside, helping them locate coastal areas (including their nearest seaside), identify human and physical features, and understand how seaside places have changed over time. Pupils also explore seaside wildlife, compare the seaside with their local area, and learn how people can care for coastal environments.</p>	
Year 2	<p style="text-align: center;">Planet Earth</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: What do we know about planet Earth?</p> <p>This unit develops pupils' understanding of local, national and global geography, beginning with identifying human and physical features of their local area and developing map-making and compass skills. Pupils widen their knowledge by learning about the UK, continents, oceans, the equator and hemispheres, exploring local weather patterns, and considering why oceans matter and how people can take action to help address climate change.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Exploring the World</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: How does where you live affect how you live?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to Australia and Brazil, helping them locate each country, identify major cities and landmarks, explore wildlife, climate and daily life, and understand how these places compare to the UK. Pupils also learn about the influence of climate and rainforest environments, and explore cultural traditions such as the Rio Carnival, developing global awareness and comparison skills.</p>	
Year 3	<p style="text-align: center;">Rivers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: Where does the River Tees start and end?</p> <p>This unit develops pupils' understanding of rivers, beginning with UK rivers and a local study of the River Tees, including how rivers are formed, the water cycle, river processes and features such as waterfalls. Pupils compare rivers at different scales, exploring flood protection, the River Tees and River Thames, rivers around the world, and how people use rivers by comparing the River Tees. With the Amazon River.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Biomes - rainforests</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: Are rainforests important?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to biomes and ecosystems, with a focus on rainforests, where they are found in the world, and how they are structured into different layers. Pupils explore how plants, animals and people are adapted to rainforest environments, consider the impact of human activity, and learn why rainforests are important and how they can be protected.</p>	
Year 4	<p style="text-align: center;">Coasts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: How do coasts change over time?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to coastal geography, exploring what coasts are, the types of settlements found there, and locating famous coastlines around the world. Pupils learn about coastal processes such as erosion, the formation of bays, headlands and coastal landforms from crack to stump, and consider how both natural processes and engineering solutions affect and protect coastlines.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Angry Earth</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: Why is our planet angry?</p> <p>This unit explores the structure of the Earth, helping pupils understand its layers, tectonic plates, and how these are linked to volcanoes and earthquakes around the world. Pupils learn about volcanic structure and eruption types, why and where earthquakes occur, and examine the impacts of earthquakes, including how people can prepare for and respond to natural hazards.</p>	
Year 5	<p style="text-align: center;">Biomes - deserts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: Why are deserts so hot?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to biomes, focusing on hot deserts, where they are found in the world, and what their climate and landscapes are like. Pupils explore how plants, animals and people survive in desert environments by learning about adaptations, sources of water, and how humans live in and use hot desert regions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Climate change</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Big question: Is climate change real?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to climate and climate change, exploring what climate is, the causes of climate change, the enhanced greenhouse effect, and the impacts on people, places and wildlife, including the risk to low-lying countries such as the Maldives. Pupils consider how animals are affected, learn ways individuals and communities can take action, and explore the role of Greta Thunberg as a young environmental campaigner who has raised awareness of climate issues around the world.</p>	

Year 6	<p style="text-align: center;">North America</p> <p>Big question: What are the geographical features of North America?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to North America, locating the continent and exploring the geographical features, population and landscapes of the USA, including a detailed study of the Grand Canyon. Pupils examine key physical challenges facing North America, the impact of farming, and investigate how New York City has changed over time, comparing it with other major cities across the continent.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tsunami</p> <p>Big question: What caused the Japanese tsunami?</p> <p>This unit introduces pupils to Japan, locating it in the world and exploring what the country is like, before developing an understanding of Earth's crust and tectonic plates. Pupils investigate the causes and effects of the Japanese tsunami, how Japan and the wider world responded, and compare it with the tsunami in Indonesia, building understanding of natural hazards and global responses.</p>
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