

At St Teresa's Catholic Primary School our curriculum is driven by our mission *to create confident and independent learners who have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best that they can be and who serve each other in a loving Catholic community.*

Intent:

At St Teresa's we foster a curiosity among children of the world around them and a fascination of people and places across the globe. Pupils develop a rich understanding of the geographical world around them in both terms of human and physical geography. Geography is an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. Children apply these skills to develop a rich understanding of their place in the world. We teach children about geographical knowledge in relation to how the world has been formed, changed and altered over time through physical and human processes. The curriculum is designed to develop knowledge, vocabulary and skills which can then be transferred to other areas of their learning. Teaching and learning equips pupils with a rich knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments. As children progress through school, they develop an understanding of the delicate and intricate balance between the human and physical worlds and how it impacts on their lives now and in the future. Our Geography curriculum builds on children's prior learning and develops their knowledge of the world around them so that they know more, remember more, and understand more.

Implementation:

At St Teresa's, we deliver a high quality and vocabulary rich Geography curriculum. To ensure and maintain high standards of teaching and learning in geography, we implement a bespoke curriculum that progresses throughout the whole school. Units of work are sequenced and systematically revisited to ensure that pupils know more and remember more as they move through primary school and transfer into KS3. This is achieved by teaching key conceptual threads such as the children's place in the world. In EYFS children are taught that they live in Darlington, as children progress through KS1 they explore their place in the world and the continents which make up the Earth. As children then move into LKS2 they are taught about global neighbours and as they progress into UKS2 they compare human settlements on a global scale. Geography is taught through termly units of work which focus on the knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum.

Planning is carried out in alignment with the National Curriculum and where units of work allow, links are made to the local area and the natural land forms and processes that can be seen, identified and observed in our local area.

Our curriculum covers the National Curriculum and is underpinned by the building blocks of Geography known as Threshold Concepts.

1. **Location and Place Knowledge** – identify, name and locate places nationally and globally.
2. **Geographical techniques and terms** – building geographical skills and vocabulary.
3. **Physical features and processes** – identifying and describing the formation and changes which occur on the natural landscape across the globe.

4. **Human interaction with the environment** – understand the impact that humans have on the environment and the impact that the environment has on human habitation.

Wherever possible cross curricular links are integrated and children will have the opportunity to participate in educational visits which link to their learning. Visits, either in or out of school, are an important way of stimulating pupils' imagination and to gain first-hand experiences.

Impact:

Our curriculum demonstrates the progression of knowledge, skills and vocabulary which form parts of the units studied. Children record what they have learned comparative to their starting points at the end of every topic. By the end of Year 6 children will have developed an understanding of their local area and how it fits into the wider world around them. They will understand how the world has been formed, shaped and changed over time. Children will also have started to think critically about how we as humans have impacted on the wider world and how we have a responsibility to the natural world.

When pupils leave our school, they will know more, remember more, and understand more about Geography. They will have developed the geographical knowledge and skills to help them explore, navigate, and understand the world around them and their place in it.

