



## **Geography Intent**

At Welholme Academy, we plan our Geography curriculum to ensure that it is fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are not only to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Geography through the provision of a broad, balanced plus differentiated curriculum - ensuring the progressive development of geographical knowledge, concepts and skills - but to also develop the children's genuine love for this subject through both the diet we offer at Welholme Academy and its delivery too. Our success in these two key areas undoubtedly, ignites our pupils' curiosity and fascination about the diverse world in which they live whilst, at the same time, encourages them to evaluate their current impact on our ever evolving, fragile planet and consider their future role in preserving and building upon current trends.

Here, at Welholme Academy, we appreciate that Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We are passionate about promoting the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources plus natural and human environments together with a deeper understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. We place a strong emphasis upon providing children with opportunities to perform geographical research and fieldwork studies within their local area so that they can develop a real sense of who they are, their heritage and appreciate what makes our local area unique and special. Educational visits further afield are key to opening the children's eyes to contrasting areas, thus broadening their horizons whilst continuing to develop geographical knowledge and skills. We are keen to develop the children's ability to communicate their findings and geographical understanding to a range of audiences. Geography - at Welholme Academy - is covered through topic based enquiry learning and has links within other curriculum areas such as English, Drama, Maths, History, Science and PE.

Via high quality teaching and a rich geographical diet, we seek to develop the following essential characteristics of geographers within our pupils:

- An excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like, both in the local area, the United Kingdom plus the wider world, appreciating similarities and differences;
- An understanding of the ways in which places and geographical processes are interdependent and interconnected;
- Confidence when interpreting information from maps, keys, aerial photographs and so forth and an ability to explain their findings or thoughts;
- Accurate geographical knowledge and a wide range of vocabulary which can be explained and applied correctly within written work and presentations;
- An ability to suggest a sensible line of geographical enquiry, offer hypotheses to test out and suggest how these can be fairly carried out;
- Ever developing fieldwork skills using a variety of resources and techniques;
- The ability to reach clear conclusions and explain their findings, backing these up with geographical evidence;
- The ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current issues in society and the environment, inclusive of local issues and understanding their role in contributing to improving local and global issues;
- A genuine interest in the subject and a real sense of curiosity about the world and its people.

## **Implementation**

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning in Geography, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Geography is taught as part of a half-termly topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. As part of this process teachers plan the following:

- An enquiry question at the beginning of the Geography topic;
- A knowledge organiser which outlines knowledge (including vocabulary) all children must master and apply in lessons;
- A rubric which shows differentiation and enables high aspirations;
- A cycle of lessons for each subject, which carefully plans for progression and depth concentrating on the geographical skills suited to each specific year group;
- A low stakes quiz which is tested regularly to support learner's ability to block learning and increase space in the working memory;
- Challenge questions for pupils to apply their learning in a philosophical/open manner;
- Fieldwork opportunities, educational trips to places further afield and visits from experts who will enhance the children's learning experience.

## **Impact**

Our Geography Curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. In addition, we measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- A reflection on standards achieved against the planned outcomes; (Kagan group topic books)
- A celebration of learning for each topic which demonstrates progression across the school;
- Tracking of knowledge in regular learning quizzes;
- Pupil discussions about their learning (pupil voice).
- Moderation of topic books within the allotted team to ensure geographical coverage and differentiation.
- Assessing children's understanding of geographical vocabulary before and after the unit of work.

Our children will be equipped with geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and life as an adult in the wider world. We want the children to have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Geography, therefore encouraging them to undertake new life experiences and interests both now and in the future.