

# Geography at Yarm Primary

**At Yarm Primary School, we aim to provide children with a broad and balanced curriculum, which builds on children's needs and prepares them for the future. We use an enquiry based learning approach to provide an engaging and purposeful context for learning where pupils are encouraged to apply the skills and knowledge in a range of subjects. We place emphasis on mastering skills and learning key information to provide a solid foundation for lifelong learning.**

In the Early Years Foundation Stage children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another (between home and school for example).

Within the National Curriculum, pupils should be taught:

## **KS1**

To develop knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom and their locality.

To understand basic subject-specific vocabulary relating to human and physical geography.

To begin to use geographical skills, including first-hand observation, to enhance their locational awareness.

## **KS2**

To extend their knowledge and understanding beyond the local area to include the United Kingdom and Europe, North and South America. This will include the location and characteristics of a range of the world's most significant human and physical features. To develop their use of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enhance their locational and place knowledge.

Children are supported in developing their skills through discrete topic links and the explicit teaching of a sequence of lessons (including knowledge and skills), over a short period of time. Knowledge is also taught effectively through English, as well as topic lessons.

The school typically offers a range of residential experiences (Y2 – Y6) which provide the opportunity for children to apply the skills gained, 'out in the field'.

Local study also allows us to learn and apply our knowledge and skills – compare and contrast – through e.g. the study of Yarm, homes and houses, England compared to Norway and Rainforests.

To secure the offer we feel our children deserve and better reflect what is captured in curriculum maps, we will work on the following as short term priorities:

- Review and audit Geography resources.
- Look at the existing plans in maps and explore the continuous development of lesson sequences becoming more typical than episodic 'events'.
- Promote the display of Geography in shared areas to raise status within the curriculum.



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