

Curriculum Intent - Geography

At Northwood Park Primary School, we aim to inspire young, inquisitive minds to **explore and contribute** to the fascinating world around them. Our team of dedicated staff provide an extensive range of opportunities to inspire those minds with **experiences which discover hidden talents, skills, new passions and develop curiosity**. We believe that an integral part of learning is through the careful implementation of a well-structured Geography curriculum which **builds-on children's prior learning** and gives our children opportunities to **apply** this as they continue their journey through school. The aims and objectives build on the key National Curriculum principles of KS1 and develop greater understanding and knowledge of the world in order to become **aspirational, confident** geographers when transitioning into KS2.

At Northwood Park Primary our staff endeavour to deliver the curriculum to equip children with a growing knowledge about the world, helping to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Through experiential learning, our children develop a geographical knowledge which enables them to attain the skills and knowledge to explain how the Earth's features are interconnected and change over time. We believe this is how our children **grow as happy and successful individuals** by **working hard, working happier and working together**.

As we understand that Geography is such an investigative subject, the inquisitive journey of Geography at Northwood Park Primary begins in the Early Years Foundation Stage where children begin to develop curiosity and **creativity** by making comments and asking questions about their familiar world. They begin to notice similarities, differences, patterns and changes, observing features of their own immediate environment whilst underpinning skills across one of the seven key learning areas: Understanding the World. The principle teaching of Geography in Key Stage 1 focuses on beginning to use maps and recognising both physical and human features. Children engage in fieldwork within their local area, using simple compass directions and describing features on a map. Pupils begin to develop an understanding and knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom, their locality whilst establishing their **belonging** and importance in the world. Through developing their Place Knowledge, pupils begin to appreciate geographical similarities and differences as they compare where they live to a small area in a contrasting non-European country.

In Key Stage Two, we **build-on their prior learning** and proceed to extend pupils' knowledge and understanding beyond the local area, locating the world's countries. In Lower Key Stage Two, the teaching of Geography focuses on knowledge and skills necessary to progress further into Upper Key Stage Two. It follows through a continuation of skill-based and practical lessons to develop Locational Knowledge, Place Knowledge, Geographical Knowledge and expanding their use of key vocabulary when commenting on Human and Physical geography. Upper Key Stage Two provides opportunities to explore North and South America as part of their location studies; they begin to look in closer detail at different types of settlement and land use, trade links and the distribution of natural resources. Through carefully sequenced lessons, pupils begin to understand how different aspects of key human

and physical geography have changed over time and comparing characteristics to the modern day.

Our Geography Curriculum provides excellent **enrichment opportunities** whilst shaping the minds of young geographers. The nature of Geography gives us the opportunity to discretely weave each aspect of British Values through our teaching: the journey itself unravels the true values of teaching children to be tolerant, celebrate the **diversity of our community** and that **we treat others as we wish to be treated. Northwood Park is a team** of dedicated staff who are proud to celebrate each individual child's successes as we enable them to see the **wealth of possibilities available to them.** We **creatively** take our children through an unforgettable journey, where they understand the importance of their role, and become more conscientious as we **prepare all children for life beyond primary school.**

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