

## The Geography Curriculum at Yeadon Westfield Infant School

### Intent

At Yeadon Westfield Infant School we believe that **all** pupils are entitled to a stimulating and well-structured curriculum based on the Geography Programmes of Study (National Curriculum 2014) and the EYFS Statutory Framework.

As an infant and nursery school, we want to inspire in our pupils an early curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. We want our children to begin to see the links between the natural and human world, to develop an appreciation of how different cultures and societies rely on each other and help them think about their own place in the world and their responsibilities towards it. We are very much centred on the first steps of this learning journey towards creating enthusiastic young geographers who will use their knowledge and skills in the future, whether that is in looking after our changing world, in further education or in their working lives.

We aim to:

- develop geographical knowledge and understanding of places and environments throughout the world
- develop a greater knowledge of their local area and community
- increase their knowledge of other cultures and, in so doing, develop respect and understanding of what it means to be a positive citizen in a multicultural society
- develop cartographic skills, for example how to use, draw and interpret maps
- develop an awareness of the relationships between people and the environment
- develop a range of investigative and problem-solving skills both inside and outside the classroom
- develop a sense of responsibility for the care of the earth and its peoples

We believe that following a rigorous and child centred curriculum which runs from the beginning of nursery allows us to ensure **all** pupils are given the opportunities they need to make progress in the acquisition of geographical knowledge and skills, whether they are disadvantaged, have special educational needs, or have delays or gaps in learning.

### Implementation

In EYFS children will learn early geography knowledge and skills through:

- areas of provision outside and inside as well as investigation trays.
- stories and drawing geographical story maps.  
learning about weather, temperature, hot and cold weather and places, seasonal clothes and activities.
- learning harvest songs, where food comes from and the job of a farmer.  
learning about various occupations including those of other people who help us.
- local and national/international events, e.g., countries and flags during sporting events.

In KS1 children will:

- learn the key knowledge and skills set out in the National Curriculum through a broad curriculum which encompasses discrete lessons where appropriate, as well as through our rolling programme of topics across the key stage.
- learn what the study of geography is, and the skills involved.
- acquire age-appropriate language to support them in talking about their learning and when communicating knowledge and understanding.
- make links with other subjects, especially when engaged in our topic-based learning.
- take part in hands-on experiences and field work, for example using the immediate and wider local area, as well as when on visits for other areas of the curriculum.

- communicate what they know through talking or recording information in writing and pictures.

#### Assessment

- all lessons will provide opportunities for formative assessment
- children in Early Years will be assessed against the statements in Development Matters and the EYFS Statutory Framework
- children in KS1 will be assessed during and at the end of each block of discrete teaching or topic using a class assessment grid

Monitoring is carried out to ensure staff and children are confident with teaching and learning geography. Staff are kept up to date with developments in the teaching of geography, with work being done in the ALPT and advice from the Department of Education.

#### **Impact**

By the end of KS1, children should:

- know what the study of geography is.
- enjoy geography lessons, make connections and be keen to learn more.
- demonstrate understanding of the locational and place knowledge, as well as of the human and physical geography, set out in the KS1 National Curriculum.
- demonstrate the geographical skills required at this key stage including drawing their own maps.
- be familiar with different maps, globes and associated on-line resources.
- ask questions, communicate and discuss ideas, and record their work in writing with increasing clarity.
- understand our place in the world they have been learning about.
- begin to show an awareness of environmental issues for our changing planet, how humans have affected these in the past and how we can move forward for the future

Learning is expected to be of high quality with children putting in their best effort. Children should enjoy Geography lessons and be keen to challenge themselves regardless of stage of development. They should leave our school ready for the next stage of their learning in KS2.