

CLIFFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND
INFANT SCHOOL

POLICY STATEMENT FOR GEOGRAPHY

To be Reviewed : September 2018

Reviewed by : L. Stent

Aims

Geography should help pupils :

- * to develop a strong interest in their own surroundings and in the world as the home of all peoples.
- * name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans
- * to celebrate the variety of physical and human conditions around the globe and their place in it.
- * to understand some of the relationships between people and their environments.
- * to understand what it means to live in one place rather than another.
- * to recognise some of the more important geographical patterns and relationships in different types of landscape and in different types of human activities.
- * to develop positive images of places and people.
- * to construct a framework of knowledge and understanding about the world which will form a context for geographical aspects of the whole curriculum.

Curriculum Organisation

Geography is linked to the half-term topic if appropriate. Our aim is that children cover the KS1 Geography requirements over the key stage. We work to develop map and atlas skills, weather studies and environmental issues.

Reception pupils follow a programme of study to enable the children to fulfil the Early Learning Goal: Understanding the World.

Teaching and Learning

Geography is important because it is a body of knowledge; understanding and skills, which help us, understand the world we live in. Geography teaching is planned to provide opportunities for pupils to :

- * explore geographical themes such as rivers and weather and the processes involved.
- * use globes, maps and atlases to develop skills and to discover more about the world.
- * use compass directions
- * collect and display data and information and come to conclusions.
- * enjoy aspects of geography through stories, poems and music.
- * discuss issues and clarify ideas.
- * appreciate and begin to understand the wider culture of peoples and places studied.
- * make models, maps, illustrations and photographs of physical and human features.
- * play and experiment with basic materials such as water, sand, rocks and soil.
- * develop an appropriate geographical vocabulary.

Classroom Organisation

Geography teaching will be organised in classrooms according to the requirements of the activity and the needs of the pupils. It will be a balanced mix of whole class teaching, group work, paired and individual work. Generally teaching will be in mixed ability groups but some activities will require different groupings to maximise effective learning.

Resources

Resources will be kept in the central resource area or in classrooms as appropriate. An emphasis will be placed on acquiring actual materials rather than all-inclusive published schemes.

Resources already available include: globes and atlases, maps at a variety of scales including OS maps, aerial photographs, photopacks of localities outside the UK, posters, reference books, weather equipment, clipboards, measuring equipment shared with maths and computer programmes, such as Ordnance Survey and Google Earth.

Provision for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

Pupils of all abilities and capability will be ensured access to the curriculum through the variety of learning and teaching activities outlined above.

Particularly through: first hand experiences of visits and fieldwork; the use of illustrative materials including photographs and video.

Equal Opportunities

Geography will be taught within the framework of the school equal opportunities policy and in particular, will seek to ensure that all pupils whatever their physical capability will be given access to fieldwork opportunities. In the study of peoples and places, the work and activities of women, men and children will be given equal consideration.

Assessment

Work will be regularly marked and assessed by class teachers.

Planning and Implementation

Geography resources will be evaluated, ordered and organised by all the staff and a project leader when appropriate.