



# Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

## Geography

### Programme of Study



#### **Purpose of Study**

A high-quality geography education inspires pupil's curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Geography provides pupils with an insight into diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

The core of geography is understanding the world, pupils are taught about the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments.

Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped with the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

#### **Aims and Principles**

##### **Aims**

Our Geography curriculum closely follows the aims of the National Curriculum to ensure that all pupils:

- develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes
- understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time
- are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
  - collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes
  - interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
  - communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

##### **Principles**

We believe that Geography is important in order provide a rich and varied curriculum with opportunities for cross curricular learning.

It encourages children to appreciate the wonders of the world and open their minds to the challenges that the Earth faces. It has the power to inspire new initiatives to help save the world we live in.

## **Attainment**

By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

## **Progression**

Throughout KS1 and KS2 the school curriculum includes teaching under three strands; **Locational knowledge, Place knowledge, Human and physical geography, Geographical skills and fieldwork**, which may be taught independently or together.

By the end of KS1 pupils should be sufficiently competent in these strands to support their learning across the curriculum at KS2, and similarly by the end of KS3.

## **Subject Content**

### **Key Stage 1**

Pupils should be taught to:

#### **Locational knowledge**

- name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans
- name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas

#### **Place knowledge**

- understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country

#### **Human and physical geography**

- identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles
- use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to:
  - key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather
  - key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop

#### **Geographical skills and fieldwork**

- use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage
- use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map

- use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key
- use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment.

## **Key Stage 2**

Pupils should be taught to:

### **Locational knowledge**

- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities
- name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time
- identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)

### **Place knowledge**

- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America

### **Human and physical geography**

- describe and understand key aspects of:
  - physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle
  - human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

### **Geographical skills and fieldwork**

- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world
- use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

## **At Sacred Heart**

At Sacred Heart we use the National Curriculum to support the planning and teaching of Geography. We strive to incorporate a cross curricular approach as we believe this provides opportunities for the children to make links between subjects and become immersed in their learning.

Termly curriculum maps highlight the areas in which cross curricular links are made and these are available on the school network.