



Policy for Geography

Intent

Our vision is to provide pupils with an understanding of geography, enabling them to develop an understanding of the world around them, & how different environments impact on our lives.

Pupils are encouraged to develop an understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The curriculum is designed to inspire a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people, and to promote their interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments.

The curriculum is structured to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable.

Pupils begin by exploring aspects of geography close to home, that they have familiarity of. This includes features of our local area and community.

As their experience & understanding grows, they have opportunity to explore different geographical features of the UK, along with the characteristics of the people that live there.

To deepen their knowledge, they broaden their exploration to incorporate the wider world, and how people change & shape their environments.

Implementation

The 'Our World' area of our curriculum is delivered as a topic-based approach, rather than as discrete subjects. This is to ensure that cross-curricular links are at the core of pupil learning, to enable pupils to build a broad understanding of the world around them.

Each topic therefore differs in its degree of focus on each specific subject.

Pupils gain sufficient coverage across all subjects each year due to the design of the long term planning cycles.

Pupils joining Southgate School join either the formal or semi-formal curriculum, and may move from one to the other during their Southgate journey, to best meet their individual needs.

In both pathways, skills are built up by first focusing on pupils' immediate, familiar environments, and then broadening to places further afield and less familiar.

Learning is explored initially as experiential & by exploration, moving to incorporate the more abstract and research based.

Impact

The Curriculum Coordinator will use work monitoring, pupil voice, planning moderation and patterns reflected in learning walk feedback to assess the quality of the curriculum and the progression of pupils. All of these processes will be completed regularly throughout the year and will be overseen and monitored by SLT.



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Fieldwork Opportunities

Field work is integral to good geography teaching and we include as many opportunities as we can to involve pupils in practical geographical research and enquiry. We let all pupils carry out an investigation into the local environment and we give them the opportunities to observe and record information around the school site. Pupils also study the local area and class visits take place.

Enquiries and questions

The school welcomes enquiries or questions about Geography. In the first instance parents should contact their child's class teacher.