

Christ Church School, Hampstead

Curriculum statement: Geography



The Governing Body of Christ Church Primary School, Hampstead adopted this statement for Geography in May 2015 and it should be read in conjunction with our Teaching and Learning Policy and our published curriculum overview.

The contribution of Geography to the primary curriculum

Geography provides a means of exploring, appreciating and understanding the world in which we live and how it has evolved over time. Geography explores the relationship between the Earth and its people. Geography stimulates curiosity and imagination and aims to build upon the child's "personal geography" by developing geographical skills, understanding and knowledge through studying places and themes. Through Geography lessons children are able to study the location of the physical and human features of the earth and the processes, systems and inter-relationships that create and influence them. It examines how people affect, manage and sustain their environment. Geographical enquiry helps children to learn about their immediate surroundings, the broader world and how the environment can affect their lives and determine decision-making. The study of geography helps to develop a sense of identity and promotes responsible citizenship.

Aims and Objectives of teaching Geography at Christ Church

Through our teaching of Geography at Christ Church School we aim to:

- Inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.
- Equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.
- Develop a growing knowledge about the world to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments.
- Acquire Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills.
- Enable children to learn and explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Objectives – what we want to achieve

At Christ Church School the children are taught to:

- gain knowledge and understanding of places in the wider world;
- increase their knowledge and appreciation of other ethnic, cultural and economic diversities and, in so doing, learn to respect and understand what it means to be a positive citizen in a multi-cultural country;
- know and understand environmental issues at a local, regional and global level and develop an awareness of the need to protect and conserve the environment;
- develop a variety of other skills, including those of observation, enquiry, analysis, communication, problem solving, ICT, investigation and how to present their conclusions in the most appropriate way.

The Curriculum

EYFS

Elements of Geography are delivered in EYFS through the Foundation Stage Curriculum. In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) the children explore places, people, communities and the world through their work related to 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World'.

KS1

In KS1 pupils will develop their knowledge about their local area, the United Kingdom and the wider world. They will understand and use a range of basic subject-specific vocabulary related to physical and human geography (e.g. border, coast, continent, etc.) when comparing the UK to a non-European country. They will

learn about the seasons and weather, and will start to think about climates in different parts of the world. They will begin to use geographical skills such as compass directions and first-hand observation, to enhance their locational awareness in relation to themselves.

KS2

In KS2 pupils will continue to extend their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. They will think about their local area, the United Kingdom and comparative areas in European countries. They will also begin to look at the physical and human geography of areas in North and South America. Children will think about significant human and physical features of the world such as climate zones, rivers, volcanoes, vegetation belts, settlements and trade links. They will continue to develop their geographical vocabulary and use this in their independent work. Children should also develop their use of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enhance their locational and place knowledge.

Review

This statement should be reviewed every three years to ensure that it is a reflection of current best practice.

Revised by the school's Geography Subject Leader in January 2015.