

Haughton School

Geography Policy



Updated: December 2024

Review date: September 2026

Geography teaches an understanding of places and environments. Through their work in geography, children learn about their local area, and they compare life in this area with that in other regions of the United Kingdom and in the rest of the world. They experience drawing and interpreting maps, and they begin to develop the skills of research and investigation. Through their growing knowledge and understanding of human geography, children gain an appreciation of life in other cultures. Geography teaching can also motivate children to find out about the physical world, and enables them to recognise the importance of sustainable development for the future of mankind.

The objectives are:

- To enable children to gain knowledge and understanding of places in the world
- To increase children's knowledge of other cultures and, in doing so, teach a respect and understanding of what it means to be a positive citizen in a multi-cultural country
- To allow children to begin to learn graphic skills, including how to use, draw and interpret maps
- To enable children to know and understand environmental problems at a local, regional and global level
- To encourage in children a commitment to sustainable development, and an appreciation of what "global citizenship" means

We have a creative approach to the teaching of geography. Emphasis is placed on the development of enquiry skills, as well as on factual knowledge. Children are encouraged to see the similarities between places before they note the differences. This ensures that children understand that we all share a common humanity.

We recognise that in all classes children have a wide range of ability in geography, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children

by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this by:

- setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty, some children not completing all tasks
- grouping children by ability in the room, and setting different tasks for each ability group
- providing resources of different complexity, depending on the ability of the child
- using support assistants to support children individually or in groups.

Within the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 The children have opportunities to observe and find out about their own immediate environment, including the local community, and to explore the wider world during Planning in the Moment.

Geography throughout the rest of the school is taught as part of our topic work based on IPC (International Primary Curriculum) units of work which are compliant with the National Curriculum 2014.

We assess the children's work in geography whilst watching and listening to them working. Staff record the progress made by children against the learning objective for each lesson which informs the planning of future work.

An overview of the work covered in KS1, Lower and Upper KS2 can be found in the Curriculum Overview document.