

Geography at Laygate Community School

Intent

At Laygate Community School, we regard Geography as an integral part of the children's entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum. Our aim is to inspire and ignite fascination in pupils' minds about their world and people they share it with. Children investigate a range of places – both in Britain and abroad to help develop their knowledge and understanding of the Earth's physical and human processes. We are committed to providing children with opportunities to investigate and make inquiries about their local area of Laygate and Tyne & Wear so that they can develop of real sense of who they are, their heritage and what makes our local area unique and special.

Implementation

Geography is by nature an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts knowledge and skills. Following the framework of the 2014 National Curriculum and through high quality teaching, we develop the following essential characteristics of geographers:

- Fluency in complex, geographical inquiry and the ability to apply questioning skills, as well as effective presentation techniques;
- An excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like, both in Britain and the wider world;
- An extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary which develops and evolves as they progress through the different year groups.
- A comprehensive understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected;
- The ability to reach clear conclusions and explain their findings;
- Children develop an age appropriate and accurate knowledge of the location, physical and human characteristics of a range of globally significant places.
- Children understand the geographical processes and key physical and human geographical features of the world. How they are codependent and how they bring variation and change to the landscape.
- Children will conduct fieldwork to deepen understanding, investigating, analysing, and presenting data to support their geographical thinking.
- Children will have the skills to use and interpret a range of resources including map and compass skills, globes, aerial photographs and digital mapping.
- The ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current issues in society and the environment;
- A genuine interest in the subject and a real sense of curiosity about the world and the people who live here.
- To fortify each child with the knowledge, skills, techniques and rigour to succeed and make progress throughout school.
- Children's cultural development is enhanced by them having a greater understanding of their place in the world and the importance of looking after our natural resources and the people of the world.

Impact

Our Geography Curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. Units of work are carefully sequenced so prior knowledge and concepts are built upon.

Children are equipped with geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them not only to be ready for the curriculum at KS3 but also for life as an adult in the wider world. We want the children to have enjoyed learning about the world we live in and to open up the idea that the world is remarkable and full of amazing, interesting and diverse places. As a school children are taught discreet vocabulary that they will meet at the beginning of each unit which form part of their progression as they move higher up through the year groups.

In addition, we measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Summative assessment of pupils' learning
- Marking of work in books.
- Allocated subject leader time to conduct learning walks, progression reviews with staff and pupil discussions about their learning.

Please refer to the Geography policy for more details.