Geography



Intent:

What we expect children to learn at Acklam Whin

Our Geography curriculum is designed to develop children's curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. We aspire to provide our pupils with the opportunity to think like geographers by exploring and discovering the world around them from their very own classroom as well as through fieldwork and educational visits. Our aim is to provide stimulating and motivating learning opportunities that encourage them to perceive the world as an interesting place to discover and one that they wish to protect. We feel that Geography helps children to understand the world, its environments and places near and far as well as the processes that create and affect the world. At Acklam Whin, we are committed to providing children with opportunities to investigate and make enquiries about our local area so that they can develop a real sense of who they are and the heritage of where they live, exploring what makes our local area unique and special.

During a pupil's journey from Y1 to Y6, our broad and balanced Geography curriculum builds on the Knowledge and Understanding of the World our children develop across EYFS.

The purpose of our high-quality geography curriculum from Year 1 to Year 6 is to:

- inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people;
- equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments;
- provide pupils with opportunities to explore and investigate our local area;
- help pupils to develop a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes;
- help pupils to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments;
- help pupils to develop geographical knowledge, understanding and skills;
- provide the framework and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Implementation

How we realise our intent in terms of a working framework.

Our Geography curriculum is underpinned by the National Curriculum 2014 and is organised using our AWPS Geography Skills Progression document to ensure a progressive approach across the key stages in 4 key areas:

- ✓ Geographical Enquiry
- ✓ Locational and Place Knowledge
- ✓ Human and Physical Geography
- ✓ Skills and Fieldwork
- Our EYFS nurtures the first opportunities to see how a child interacts with their environment and how the environment influences them. Staff follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework which aims to guide children, to make sense of their physical world and their community by allowing them to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment – this is the first step of becoming a geographer.

- In KS1 and KS2, teachers maintain strong links to the National Curriculum guidelines to ensure all aspects, knowledge and skills of Geography are taught across all year groups.
- Geography lessons are planned coherently, using the AWPS Geography Skills
 Progression Document, to build pupils' knowledge and understanding of the
 world and the interaction between physical and human processes through quality
 first teaching, ensuring that knowledge is taught across the year group; skills are
 progressed across the key stage with connections made to prior learning.
- Themes are planned following a clear teaching sequence to develop geographical skills and understanding:
 - ✓ Placing of the Geography being studied in the context of previous learning using maps/atlases
 - ✓ Establishing existing knowledge and briefly reviewing previous learning
 - ✓ Specifying key vocabulary to be used and its meaning
 - ✓ Conducting geographical enquiry or skills based tasks using a variety of sources and developing their ability to apply questioning skills
 - ✓ Interpreting their findings
 - ✓ Communicating their geography knowledge and understanding appropriately through opportunities to express well-balanced opinions and show understanding of relevant issues
 - ✓ Evaluating their learning and comparing with other geographical themes studied
- Our curriculum enables pupils to build geographical expertise from their local area and extend that to the wider world. As pupils journey from EYFS to the end of KS2, they will develop an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary. This includes locational knowledge, understanding of human and physical features and geographical and fieldwork techniques.
- Opportunities to develop their skills and fieldwork using maps and atlases (both physical and digital) will be provided for all pupils. Fieldwork allows pupils to apply geographical skills in a real-life setting and explore their local area and the features within it. We will develop deep subject knowledge and key skills while supporting and challenging all abilities as appropriate. Our local area is utilised with opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice.
- Children will access a range of sources including atlases, books, knowledge organisers, maps, digital technology, and photographs to support them in developing their knowledge and understanding.
- Assessment is ongoing and progress measured against the AWPS Geography Skills Progression Document to inform future aspects of the teaching sequence.
- Our curriculum aims to inspire a genuine interest in geography and a real sense of curiosity about our local area, the world and the people who live here.

Impact

Impact: the effect of teaching geography for our children and how we measure their learning in geography at Acklam Whin.

We endeavour to ensure that every child who leaves Acklam Whin does so having achieved their potential and with the ability to use and adapt skills and knowledge acquired through their geographical learning to help them succeed in their future.

They will have developed confidence and skills which can be transferred into other aspects of their daily lives.

The impact of teaching our geography curriculum is that:

- Children will enjoy geography and develop a curiosity about our World and how they can contribute to protecting it.
- Children will develop a clear and confident understanding of their own community and locality.
- Children will be inquisitive and reflective learners who can share their learning with others as well as be responsible for their own learning.
- Children will make good progress against age related expectations in Geography and, as they progress through school, will deepen their geographical knowledge, skills and understanding as organised in the AWPS Skills Progression document.
- Children's opportunities to grow as learners will be reflected in positive attitudes and growth mind-set shown throughout all aspects of their learning.

We measure the impact of our geography curriculum by:

- Regularly reflecting on standards achieved against the planned outcomes.
- Pupil discussions about their learning.
- Photographic and video evidence.
- Assessing children's understanding of topic linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Continual teacher assessment at the beginning of a lesson to identify level of understanding of pupils and correct misconceptions.
- Pupil's work that shows children are able to use this knowledge and apply it to
 activities and skills at an age appropriate level with opportunities for challenge
 and abstract thinking.