



## ***Seek, Believe & Achieve* in Geography**

At Speen CofE School, we want all our pupils to understand the world, its environments and places near and far and the processes that create and affect them. We teach children to be analytical by accessing geographical concepts through a variety of learning experiences including opportunities to investigate the locality of the school and interpret information from a range of sources. We want to inspire our pupils to be curious about the world around them, equipping them with knowledge about places, people, resources and environments, together with a deepening understanding of the earth's key physical and human processes. Geography at Speen is designed to develop the child's ability to observe and find patterns in observation, raise questions, experiment and investigate reason systematically and logically, solve problems and communicate their ideas with one another. Our geography curriculum will develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable. We want our children to have a sense of place and understanding of how the world around them works.

### **Our Intent**

The geography curriculum at Speen CofE School enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which can and are used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; to promote the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. Our curriculum encourages children to develop coherent knowledge and understanding of Speen, Britain and the wider world. Often utilising our forest schools programme, we build in fieldwork to help children think critically, analyse and raise the questions that evolve through their natural curiosity.

The curriculum is designed to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable, throughout their time at Speen and also to their further education and beyond.

### **Implementation**

Geography at Speen CofE School is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. In Key Stage 1, these topics are organised into a two-year rolling programme. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each blocked topic and consideration has been given

to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they know already as well as what they would like to find out. This informs the programme of study and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated within each lesson, as well as how learners will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion.

Cross curricular outcomes in geography are specifically planned for, with strong links between geography and literacy lessons identified, planned for and utilised. The local area is fully utilised to achieve the desired outcomes, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice.

We use trips and visitors to enhance learning and all year groups use the local outside environment as part of their learning and for field work. We ensure that our curriculum reflects our school values and choose topics that may give rise to courageous advocacy e.g., destruction of rainforest, global warming and pollution. We want our children to feel impassioned about issues, as a result of their desire to embrace the school's values teaching. We make the most of the outdoor area, with weekly forest school sessions and we ensure our children take pride in the local area by taking part in the annual village litter pick up. As Speen is very much inland, we have included a unit on the coast to widen our children's knowledge.

As part of our focus on oracy, we use strategies such as role play to develop discussion. Subject specific vocabulary is progressively taught across the school and a focus of each lesson. Geography is assessed in a variety of ways: weekly quizzes and end of topic reviews focus on the recall of 'sticky learning'. Book/floor book trawls, informal learning walks and pupil interviews are conducted to assess attainment and enjoyment.

## **Impact**

The Impact and measure of this is to ensure that children are equipped with fieldwork and enquiry skills, knowledge and concepts which will enable them to be successful learners at KS2. Outcomes in our books evidence a broad and balanced curriculum, an extensive bank of knowledge and the development of key geographical skills. Children will be able to use a range of geographical resources with increasing confidence i.e., maps, globes, photographs and artefacts. Our pupil voice will show that children enjoy geography using appropriate and technical vocabulary relating to human and physical geography. By the end of their time at Speen, we want our children to understand and feel impassioned about some of the environmental issues facing our world today.