

St Giles Junior School

Geography policy

Policy started: Summer 2008

Policy administrator: Miss C Long

What is Geography?

Geography is the study of the earth and its features, inhabitants, and phenomena. It is, quite simply, about the world in which we live.

Aim

Allow the children the opportunity to make sense of earth and its features, inhabitants and phenomena

Give the children the tools to investigate the physical and human features of their surroundings with and without the use of ICT

Make children aware that the places studied exist within this broader geographical framework.

Objectives

To develop the children's geographical skills

To develop the children's knowledge and understanding about physical and human features

To give the children the opportunity to ask geographical questions, and use geographical skills and resources such as maps, atlases, aerial photographs and ICT.

Implementation

Geography is to be taught in units of work, resulting in one unit of work being taught every term with a 2 hour session allocated each week. (Time of session is at the discretion of the class teacher)

The schemes of work and resources are being adapted from the QCA schemes of work and are a work in progress.

Teaching strategies

A variety of strategies are used to teach geography skills. Initially, whole class teaching is implemented followed by group or individual differentiated follow-up work.

As the children progress through the school geography should be taught with the children doing the investigating and the class teacher offering support and guidance.

Where an opportunity arises, children should visit localities relevant to their study to aid their knowledge and understanding.

Resources

Resources for the majority of the topics are available for use in and around the school.

Many websites are available as a resource to enhance lessons and understanding.

Special needs

All Children have an entitlement to be taught geography; those with special educational needs will be catered for via differentiated Programmes of Study and will be suited to individual needs and abilities.

Cross curricular themes

Geography will be crossed with the curriculum, Literacy, Numeracy, and History at relevant times. ICT will be used in the development of geography at St Giles.

Assessment and recording

Assessments will take place at the end of every unit. The assessment should allow children to show aspects of the five main areas of the curriculum.

Records of children's assessments should be shown on the provided sheet using the traffic light system.



Has very little understanding of the topic



Has a small amount of understanding of the topic



Has a good understanding of the topic