



'Achieving Through Learning'

Geography Policy 2021 22

Aims and objectives

At Nelson Academy, we believe that geography helps to provoke and answer questions about the natural and human world in which our children, and families, live. We aim to inspire curiosity and develop skills of, questioning, critiquing, evaluating and hypothesizing through investigative approaches.

Children will learn about diverse places, people, natural and human environments. They will begin by learning about their immediate environment and their local community, this will progress to understanding about the wider world, the vast communities, landscapes and climates across the world they inhabit and will inherit.

The study of geography embraces many topics throughout curriculum, including topics in history, RE and science. Geographic knowledge includes a spatial sense of the world, an awareness of the physical processes that shape life, a sense of the interactions between humans and their environment, an understanding of the relations between places and cultures and an awareness of the characteristics of specific regions and cultures.

In year 1 children will begin to gain a geographical awareness through regular work with maps and globes, these skills are then revisited throughout each year in order to ensure that by year 6 children are confident in using maps, globes and other geographical tools.

Geography curriculum planning

Nelson Academy uses the Core Knowledge Curriculum as a basis for planning. This curriculum links core skills throughout the topics each year. The topics follow on from each other so that each child develops a clear understanding of the world.

Early Years

Please see Early Years Framework.

Key Stage 1

During Key Stage 1 pupils investigate their local area and a contrasting area in the United Kingdom or abroad, finding out about the environment in both areas and the people who live there. They also begin to learn about the wider world, including the seven continents. They carry out geographical enquiry inside and outside the classroom. In doing this they ask geographical questions about people, places and environments, and use geographical skills and resources such as maps and photographs. They create their own maps and develop keys.

Key Stage 2

During Key Stage 2 pupils investigate a variety of people, places and environments in the United Kingdom and abroad, and start to make links between different places in the world. They find out how people affect the environment and how they are affected by it. They carry out geographical enquiry inside and outside the classroom. In doing this they ask geographical questions, and use geographical skills and resources such as maps, atlases, aerial photographs and ICT. They learn to use grid references and to locate places using the grid system. They explore map projections and examine a range of maps and how the map may influence our perceptions.

Assessment

Teachers assess children's work in geography by making assessments as they observe them working during lessons. They record the progress that children make by assessing the children's work against the learning targets from the national curriculum. This allows the teacher to make termly assessments of attainment and progress for each child.

Resources

We have a selection of maps and atlases in school for both KS1 and KS2, with each year group having their own globe.

Events and parental engagement

Throughout the year Nelson Academy celebrates numerous events linking to the geography curriculum. An international food evening takes place early in the school year, this is an evening where parents and staff members are invited to enjoy an evening of food from all over the world. Each family brings one dish from anywhere in the world to share with the rest of the school community.

We also take part in the European day of languages where we explore different countries encouraging our EAL children to speak in their home language and teach others.

A culture club is held throughout the year. Each week a different country is explored, a selection of parents have been invited in to speak to children about their country of heritage and teach children some words from their home language.