



Menston Primary School Geography Curriculum Statement

Quality of Education in Geography

Geography is an integral part of our curriculum and we aim to motivate and inspire children through clearly sequenced schemes of learning so they develop a love of learning in geography. We aim to develop a curiosity and fascination about the world that the children live in and help them to enjoy learning about different global communities and their relationships between these people and their landscapes.

Through our curriculum, we equip children to be Global Citizens: to develop an awareness of the wider world and their place within it, encourage them to take an active role in the community and work with others to make our planet more peaceful, sustainable and fairer. We hope that our children will become passionate about the planet and become actively involved in protecting the environment.

Our curriculum is designed so that meaningful geographical knowledge and concepts are carefully sequenced for progression and depth both horizontally, over year groups, and vertically, across year groups, allowing children to build on prior learning and prior skills.

Each unit has also been carefully selected and placed in the curriculum map to also take into account the maturity of the children, their skills and experiences. For example, in Early Years, children have early geography opportunity embedded through our Understanding of the World curriculum, which is designed to promote exposure to locational, place, environmental knowledge as well as early geographical skills and fieldwork – focusing on the local area.

As pupils progress through KS1 into KS2, pupils go through the process of ‘internalisation’ where they re-encounter direct knowledge and start to make connections independently. These build in complexity and opportunities to use prior knowledge help to form enquiry questions and this enables them to carry out geographical investigations – ‘to think like a geographer’ and to go beyond the limitations of their own experience.

In Geography, our curriculum is shaped by our school vision which enables all children, regardless of background, ability or additional needs to flourish becoming the best that they can be. We implement a curriculum that meets the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum, incorporating the four main areas of learning at each key stage: place, location, human and physical and geographical skills and fieldwork. In the earlier year groups, we utilise our local environment, including our school grounds and our local village so that children gain a strong sense of place in real-life contexts before learning about places in Britain and the wider world.

At the beginning of each Geography unit, children demonstrate their prior knowledge, which helps to inform planning and teaching. A series of stimulating lessons are planned, with clear knowledge and skills-based learning objectives and subject-specific vocabulary. Post-learning tasks are planned to demonstrate progress, knowledge and understanding. Teachers assess learning in geography against knowledge and skills-based learning objectives within unit overviews.

Our curriculum is delivered through effective ‘quality first teaching’. The curriculum is knowledge rich and provides opportunities for enrichment, including outdoor learning, inspirational visitors and geography fieldtrips.

Our Geography curriculum promotes children’s Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, ensuring that they are reflective and responsible citizens. Fundamental British Values are actively promoted in geography lessons in order to prepare the children for life in Modern Britain.

Our well-planned Geography curriculum ensures that children are competent in the geographical skills needed to collect, analyse and communicate data, and to interpret a range of geographical sources, including maps, globes and aerial photographs. Children are able to communicate information in a variety of ways including maps, numerical and quantitative skills and a range of literacy skills.

Through the breadth and depth that our Geography curriculum offers, our children are provided with a broad knowledge of the world they live in, and understand, as responsible citizens, how they need to care and preserve the planet for future generations.