

Geography Policy

Our school policies reflect Four Swannes' commitment to an inclusive, creative, and exciting curriculum, based around high quality teaching and learning.

Purpose of Study

A high quality geography education helps children to ask and seek answers about the natural and human world around them.

Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops and understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. Its aim is 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.

Aims

The national curriculum for geography aims to ensure that all pupils :

- develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes
- understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time
- are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
- collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes
- interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length

Knowledge and Understanding

The children's understanding and knowledge of geographical facts will be broadened through the teaching of the following key elements :

- Human geography (the impact that humans have on the world around them and also how the world around them impacts on the way they live).
- Physical geography (the study and exploration of natural features of the world around us).
- Observation and exploration of the world.
- KWL grids to assess prior knowledge and inform what the children want to learn.

Cross-Curricular Links

When and where appropriate, opportunities will be encouraged to promote geographical learning across the curriculum. This could be through links with :

- Literacy – report writing, persuasive writing, descriptive writing, speaking and listening, drama activities.
- History – and the impact that nature had on significant historical events e.g. settling in other countries, lack of resources etc.
- Computing – using research tools, word processing, access to online maps.
- Art / DT – map making, drawings related to nature.
- Maths – scaling up and down, scale on a map.

Assessment and Reporting

Assessment of Geography in KS1 and KS2 will be based on teachers' judgements and all recording should be simple and straightforward; recorded often.

Subject Leader Assessment and Monitoring

The subject leader works alongside the SLT to monitor standards of teaching and learning at Four Swannes School. A structured cycle of planning and work

scrutiny, observations and pupils and staff interviews will provide information to judge the effectiveness of the subject as well as future development points.

Review date: October 2025

Next review: October 2026

Subject Leader: Sayan Ertac