

# Brookhill Leys Primary & Nursery School Geography Policy



Geography Coordinator – Miss Lisa Wright

Review Date – 2014

All school aims and policies reflect the outcomes of the Every Child Matters document:

Be healthy

Stay safe

Enjoy and achieve

Make a positive contribution

Achieve economic success.

Aims

As a school we aim to:

- Develop an understanding of the places they live and study in.
- Develop an understanding of different localities in this country and the wider world.
- Learn to use a range of investigative methods both inside and outside the classroom and making cross curricular mathematical links wherever possible.
- Stimulate the interest in their surroundings and in the variety of human and physical conditions on the Earth's surface.
- Enhance children's sense of understanding of "What's in the news" to enhance children's sense of responsibility for the care of the Earth and its people.
- Help children to develop an information concern about the quality of their environment and the future of the human habitat.

### **The Objectives of Geography Teaching**

The objectives of geography teaching in the school are based on the requirements of the National Curriculum programmes of study for key stages 1 and 2. The geography curriculum of the school will therefore help pupils to experience the following key aspects of the programme of study.

In both key stages 1 and 2 pupils should study four strands.

Strand A	Strand B	Strand C	Strand D
Geographical Enquiry and Skills	Knowledge and Understanding of Places	Knowledge and understanding of patterns and processes	Knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development

'Geography' is taught within the area: 'Understanding the World'. According to the new revised Framework the level in which the child is expected to have attained by the early learning goal set below under the strand of 'The World'. The key skills in this area of learning are:

*Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.*

### **Planning and Organisation**

- Geography in the Foundation Stage is taught as part of the curriculum under the heading 'Understanding the World'.
- Key Stage One and Key Stage Two have a two yearly cycle linked to the Chris Quigley Creative Curriculum. Geography is taught under the area of learning: 'Historical, geographical and social understand'.
- Within key stages staff plan outline plans that show the relevant cross curricular links to Geography.

### **Teaching and Learning**

It is our aim at Brookhill Leys for the children to develop an understanding of different localities in this country and the wider world.

Every effort is made to ensure that work is differentiated appropriately to meet the needs of all pupils.

Planning should highlight extension activities for gifted and talented children, specific English as an Additional Language needs and tasks and activities which will engage the interest of pupils with special learning needs, whilst offering them opportunities to succeed.

Children in Key stage one and two develop their skills through visiting places, using ICT such as the internet to research, DVD's and interactive programs used on the Interactive Whiteboard.

Planning should also make relevant links to the key skills that are being taught and then annotated on the key skills document for teachers to keep a record of the objectives and skills that have been taught.

### **Skills for Learning**

Our school as adopted Chris Quigley's 'Creative Curriculum' and the objectives of geography teaching comes under the heading 'Historical geographical and social understanding'. The key skills in this area of learning are:

INVESTIGATE	ANALYSE	COMMUNICATE	CONSIDER AND RESPOND
<p>Pupils need to:</p> <p>Undertake investigations and enquiries, using various methods, media and sources.</p>	<p>Pupils need to:</p> <p>Compare, interpret and analyse different types of evidence from a range of sources.</p>	<p>Pupils need to:</p> <p>Present and communicate findings in a range of ways and develop arguments and explanations using appropriate specialist vocabulary and techniques.</p>	<p>Pupils need to:</p> <p>Consider, respond to and debate alternative viewpoints in order to take informed and responsible action.</p>

### **Attitudes to Learning**

In order to learn about the world around them children must have:

- A curiosity to ask questions.
- Investigative minds to find out answers.
- An open mindedness to contrasting localities.
- A respect for the world around them.
- An awareness about the importance of the environment.

### **Visits**

Visits and first hand experiences are vital to the understanding of Geography. Regular educational visits are made by pupils and the local area is a valuable resource for this. Risk assessments are carried out on all visits, including local walks.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Coordinator are to:

- Take the lead in the development of the policy and schemes of work to ensure progression, quality and continuity of the teaching of Geography.
- Support staff in their planning and its implementation.
- Support colleagues in monitoring progress.
- Order, maintain and store resources effectively.
- Keep updated about new developments and inform colleagues.

### **Recording and Assessment**

Recording in Geography should be carried out in both classroom and on field studies to show range of learning styles. Assessment is carried out through observation and questioning during discussion.

### **Equal Opportunities Statement**

All children regardless of race, gender, or ability have access to the Geography curriculum, including field visits.

Resources:

- Key Stage One can be found within the Science resources outside the Foundation Stage in red boxes.
- Key Stage Two maps and Artefacts are kept in the central resource areas (room at end of corridor). DVD's, books and maps are stored in the ICT suite.

This Policy will be reviewed in September 2014.

Lisa Wright, Geography Co-ordinator

Sept 2012.