

At Windmill Hill Academy, we inspire pupils to be passionate lifelong learners by providing them with an ambitious broad and balanced curriculum, with the inclusion of a variety of enrichments, which will inspire them to have high aspirations. We inspire all learners to have strong desire to know or learn something and questioning their learning experiences to find out more. Throughout each year group and across the curriculum, pupils will make sustained progress, develop excellent knowledge, understanding and skills, regardless of their different starting points and backgrounds.

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| Subject | Geography |
| Overall curriculum | <p>A high-quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.</p> <p>Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.</p> <p>As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.</p> |
| Pedagogy | <p>Our high-quality geography curriculum inspires pupils to have a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. It provides them with the opportunities to explore their locality and place knowledge; human and physical geography; geographical skills and field work.</p> <p>This teaching equips pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.</p> <p>As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.</p> <p>Our carefully planned geography curriculum, which is based on the Collins scheme written by David Weatherly, provides the opportunity for pupils to review, revisit and develop their learning of a particular learning connection block. Geography forms the basis of our learning connection block for one of the half terms within each half term. For example, all year groups will have the learning connection block, 'Natural Elements' in Autumn 2 with each class having a particular focus on a learning concept, e.g. Year 5 – Carbon Footprint. This allows pupils to know more and remember more for each learning connection block.</p> |

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| | <p>Our evolving sustainability curriculum plan has and will continue to have many elements which link to the Geography curriculum.</p> <p>Teachers will help pupils with SEND to overcome any barriers to participating and learning and make any 'reasonable adjustments' needed to include pupils. To make lessons inclusive, teachers will anticipate what barriers to taking part and learning may pose for pupils with SEND. Some modifications or adjustments will be made or smaller steps to achieve the learning goal. Occasionally, pupils with SEND will have to work on different activities, or towards different learning intentions, from their peers.</p> <p>In EYFS, all areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. These are stipulated in the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'. The most relevant statements for geography are taken from the following areas of learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mathematics ▪ Understanding the World |
| <p>Assessment</p> | <p>Assessment is regarded as an integral part of teaching and learning and is a continuous process. There are planned opportunities within the curriculum plan to revisit learning from the current year but also previous year groups.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the class teacher to assess all pupils in their class. This is mainly achieved through mini-plenaries, questioning, observation, end of unit tasks, marking, feedback from support staff and pupil self-assessment.</p> <p>Teachers use the result of sessions tasks as well as end of unit tasks to monitor attainment and progress, as well as analysing for gaps to plan follow up learning.</p> <p>End of year assessment is reported on Itrack and features on the annual report to parents.</p> <p>In EYFS, the level of development children should be expected to have attained by the end of the EYFS is defined by the early learning goals (ELGs). These are not used as a curriculum or in any way to limit the wide variety of rich experiences that are crucial to child development. Instead, the ELGs support teachers to make a holistic, best-fit judgement about a child's development, and their readiness for year 1.</p> <p>When assessing pupils with SEND, there will be carefully planned opportunities in order for them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do, using alternative means where necessary. Where a pupil is unable to use particular types of equipment, assessment of attainment will be based on understanding of the processes used as demonstrated through oral and written responses or, where possible, through the use of alternative equipment. The attainment of pupils who require adapted equipment, such as particular switches or voice-activated software, will be assessed using these specialist items.</p> <p>The monitoring of the standards of children's learning and the quality of learning and teaching of geography is the shared responsibility of the Senior Leadership Team and the subject leader. The work of the subject</p> |

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| | <p>leader also involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of geography, being informed about current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school. A named member of the school governing body is briefed to overview the teaching of the curriculum in the school.</p> |
| Culture | <p>Our high-quality geography curriculum inspires pupils to have a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.</p> <p>Teaching equips pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.</p> <p>As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.</p> <p>Our carefully planned geography curriculum provides the opportunity for pupils to review, revisit and develop their learning of a particular learning connection block. Geography forms the basis of our learning connection block for one of the half terms within each half term. For example, all year groups will have the learning connection block, 'Natural Elements' in Autumn 2 with each class having a particular focus on a learning concept, e.g. Year 5 – Carbon Footprint. This allows pupils to know more and remember more for each learning connection block.</p> <p>Our evolving sustainability curriculum plan has and will continue to have many elements which link to the Geography curriculum.</p> <p>Teachers will help pupils with SEND to overcome any barriers to participating and learning and make any 'reasonable adjustments' needed to include pupils. To make lessons inclusive, teachers will anticipate what barriers to taking part and learning may pose for pupils with SEND. Some modifications or adjustments will be made or smaller steps to achieve the learning goal. Occasionally, pupils with SEND will have to work on different activities, or towards different learning intentions, from their peers.</p> <p>For some activities, there may need to be a 'parallel' activity for pupils with SEND, so that they can work towards the same learning intentions as their peers, but in a different way. The use of technology to assist learning can remove barrier e.g. Widget, switches, text readers and speech and communicator devices. Using keyboard shortcuts instead of a mouse, enables all pupils to be involved. Generic software, such as Microsoft Office, contains accessibility facilities for SEND pupils. Screen filters may help with glare or using coloured backgrounds e.g. yellow background with blue script for dyslexic learners.</p> |

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| | <p>Because the range of hardware and software is wide and continually expanding, teachers will always seek to collaborate with the SENDCo or colleagues e.g. previous teacher, on removing barriers to learning and participation for particular pupils with SEND. Pupils will also be able to advise on the technologies that suit them best.</p> |
| Systems | <p>In EYFS, all areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. These are stipulated in the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'.</p> <p>The most relevant statements for geography are taken from the following areas of learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mathematics ▪ Understanding the World <p>Reception</p> <p>Understanding the World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draw information from a simple map. ▪ Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. ▪ Explore the natural world around them. ▪ Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live. <p>ELG</p> <p>Understanding the World</p> <p>People, Culture and Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps. ▪ Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps. <p>The Natural World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. ▪ Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons. <p>The National Curriculum for geography aims to ensure that all pupils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ - collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. <p>By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study. <i>See the knowledge and skills organiser for geography which demonstrates the progression through the year groups.</i></p> |
| Policies/key documents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Whole School Long term horizontal curriculum map ▪ Geography Knowledge and Skills organiser ▪ EYFS Long term overview ▪ SEND Policy ▪ Sustainability Plan <p><i>All of these can be found on our website under the curriculum/policies tab.</i></p> |
| Perceptions from viewpoints (e.g. pupils/parents/Governors) | <p>Pupil:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The vast majority of pupils agree that they are learning a lot at this school and that they have to work hard. (Pupil satisfaction survey – Summer 2023). <p>Parent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The vast majority of parents agree (99%) that the teaching is good. <i>Parent Survey Summer 2023.</i> ▪ The vast majority of parents (97%) agree that the school is helping their child to become mature and responsible. <i>Parent Survey Summer 2023.</i> ▪ The vast majority of parents (94%) agree that their child is safe at school. <i>Parent Survey Summer 2023.</i> ▪ “They always get a warm welcome and the environment seems happy and stimulating for them.” <i>Parent Survey Summer 2023</i> ▪ “I feel the school offers a friendly, welcoming learning environment, and in my opinion, staff do your utmost to help a child if they are having difficulties, be that with their learning, or well-being.” <i>Parent Survey Summer 2023</i> ▪ “My child is very happy to go to school and enjoys the activities that she is given.” <i>Survey Summer 2023</i> <p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All staff agree (100%) that the children are safe at this school. <i>Staff Survey Summer 2023.</i> ▪ All staff agree (100%) that the school deals with any cases of bullying effectively (bullying includes persistent name-calling, cyber, racist and homophobic bullying). <i>Staff survey Summer 2023</i> ▪ All staff agree (100%) that leaders are doing all that they can to improve teaching. <i>Staff survey Summer 2023.</i> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ “It is a wonderful school to work in and I am very proud of all of our achievements!” <i>Survey Summer 2023</i> <p>Governors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ |
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