

Geography Curriculum Statement

“The study of geography is about more than just memorising places on a map. It’s about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it’s about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together.” Barack Obama

Intent

At Boston West Academy, the aim of our geography curriculum is to inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people, together with an understanding of the Earth’s key physical and human processes. We want our pupils to gain an understanding of their place in the world locally and globally and to understand and respect other cultures around the world through being provided with learning which does not just provide a ‘one picture’ view of a place. Each year group (Foundation Stage to year 6) has their own set fieldwork skills and fieldwork trip opportunity to encourage the children to be inquisitive and gain first-hand learning opportunities outdoors, this is also completed in our school grounds. Where possible, geography teaching in our school is linked to map, atlas and aerial photograph reading skills to develop children’s understanding of interpreting a variety of geographical information and to be competent in sharing this knowledge in a variety of ways.

Implementation

The geography curriculum at Boston West Academy is supported through our membership with Oddizzi and follows the EYFS framework and the National Curriculum. Key documents and planning from Oddizzi have supported the creation of our fieldwork skills and long term planning for each year group. These documents ensure progression in geographical knowledge and fieldwork skills/opportunities throughout the school. Geography lessons are planned following the guidance document and through using supporting materials from Oddizzi.

To ensure that every child in our school has the opportunity to gain a love of the outdoors and to understand their local environment and how this links to the geography they have learnt in class, each year group has a set fieldwork trip opportunity to experience this. This also ensures that the children receive a variety of places to experience. These trips range from exploring their outdoor learning area in Foundation Stage to support ‘Understanding the World’, a trip to Boston library in year 1 to deepen the children’s understanding of their local area and visiting the North Hykeham recycling centre in year 4 to learn about renewable energy.

Links are made to children’s previous learning to support a greater understanding of geography, to allow them to remember more and apply their learning in a variety of contexts.

In key stage 1, learning is focused on gaining an in-depth understanding of the children’s town and county as well as hot and cold places. In key stage 2, more learning is focused on earth systems such as mountains in year 3 and volcanoes in year 5. Children also broaden

their wider understanding of the world through learning focused on different countries and continents, which is set out in the geography curriculum for our school to ensure a comprehensive coverage.

Impact

- Pupils will be enthusiastic geographers
- Pupils will be excited and interested to learn about different countries and cultures
- Pupils will respect other cultures
- Pupils will have visited a variety of settings to develop and provide experiences to support their understanding of human and physical geography
- Pupils will ask questions about an area and complete research to answer their questions
- Pupils will be able to interpret an atlas and map