

# Geography

## Intent

At Stanton St Quintin Primary School we aim to make the teaching and learning of Geography exciting and engaging for both teachers and pupils and ensure that it is linked to our ethos and values. It is important that pupils have an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like so that they can appreciate and respect different cultures and beliefs and be a good global citizen. We are one world community and pupils must have an understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated. Pupils will be taught an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary and will research different subjects within geography, developing the ability to apply questioning skills and develop analytical and presentation techniques. We intend for our pupils to be able to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain their findings. We aim to nurture originality, imagination and creativity through exciting lessons and informative lesson content, encouraging pupils to become passionate about geography. Through fieldwork, pupils will be able to apply their geographical knowledge, skills and techniques, giving them hands-on geography experiences that will foster a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there. We live in a changing world and it is important that pupils at Stanton St Quintin recognise that they are part of a local and global community. We aim to develop pupils' abilities to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment so that they can be well informed global citizens.

## Implementation

Over the course of the year, long term plans ensure the coverage of the three main threshold concepts in Geography: Investigating Places, Investigating Patterns and Communicating Geographically. These are linked to topics where possible, to support cross-curricular links. Through the use of milestones, there is a clear progression for children from EYFS to Year 6.

Geography is taught in blocks over two years, which are determined by the class teachers and is based on the topic and Geography project. Where appropriate, there may be whole school focuses on Geography. Class trips may also occur to support learning.

In KS1, pupils will investigate the world's continents, oceans and countries and capitals of the United Kingdom. They will compare and contrast a small area of the United Kingdom with that of a non-European country. Pupils will explore weather and climate in the United Kingdom and around the world and use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to and describe key physical and human features of locations. Pupils will learn how to use world maps, atlases and globes, compass directions and aerial photographs. They will learn to use fieldwork and observational skills.

In KS2, pupils will locate the world's countries, with a focus on Europe and North and South America and countries of particular interest to pupils. Pupils will identify key geographical features of the countries of the United Kingdom, and show an understanding of how some of these aspects have changed over time. They will also locate the geographic zones of the world and understand their significance. Building on from KS1, pupils will be taught to understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region or area of the United Kingdom, a European country and a country within North or South America. Pupils will be taught to describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and the water cycle, as well as human geography, including settlements, land use, economic activity including trade links and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water supplies. Building on learning from KS1, pupils will be taught to use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied as well as use the eight points of a compass, four-figure grid references, symbols and keys (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build knowledge of the United Kingdom and the world. Pupils will be encouraged to use a wide range of geographical sources in order to investigate places and patterns and will use fieldwork to observe, measure and record the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs and digital technologies.

Resources are sourced at the beginning of each term to ensure that staff can teach lessons effectively.

Milestones are shared with children (where appropriate) to help them become responsible for their learning and aid assessment of progress.

Risk assessments for any materials used are conducted and shared with the staff and pupils.

The subject leader will ensure that all staff have the opportunity to develop their subject knowledge through courses and in-house training.

## Impact

At Stanton St Quintin Primary School, learners will:

- Have an understanding of the geographical location of places and their physical and human features.
- Understand the relationships between the physical features of places and the human activity within them, and have an appreciation of how the world's natural resources are used and transported.
- Understand geographical representations, vocabulary and techniques.
- Build on and develop their skills as they progress through the school.

Children will be assessed throughout the year using milestones linked to the National Curriculum objectives. This progress is reported to parents, the subject leader and the headteacher at the end of the year in the individual children's End Of Year Report. There is no requirement for sharing this data with Wiltshire Council. We monitor the impact of our Geography provision through termly teacher assessments, lesson observations, pupil voice discussions and Geography evidence in children's topic books.