

Ringway Primary School Geography Policy

The Future starts here

Our aim is to provide the foundations for a positive future for our pupils.

A future where pupils learn to stay safe, to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle , and to enjoy all they do.

A future where they are money smart & make a positive & respectful contribution to their culturally diverse community - at a local, national & global level.

A future where they aspire to be the best they can be & achieve their full potential

Created January 2015 to be reviewed 2018

Signed C of Gov.....

Headteacher.....

This policy reflects the values and philosophy in relation to the teaching and learning of Geography at Ringway Primary School. The policy is written out with regard for the National Curriculum which sets out in detail what pupils at different stages of development should be taught.

Aims

Geography at Ringway Primary school aims:-

At FOUNDATION STAGE:

- To arouse awareness of the local environment and use appropriate vocabulary to describe observations and express opinions.
- To raise awareness of other environments through stories, visits, photographs, ICT and artefacts about places all over the world in line with the new curriculum.

At KEY STAGE 1:

- Pupils should develop knowledge about the world, UK and their locality.
- To develop geographical skills through fieldwork, observations and a range of maps.
- To be able to describe and compare places near and far using geographical vocabulary.
- To appreciate both the human and physical characteristics of places.
- To evaluate man-made changes to the environment.

At KEY STAGE 2:

- Pupils should extend their knowledge and knowledge beyond the local area to include the UK and Europe, North and South America.
- To extend the depth of geographical enquiry and broaden the range of study to other areas of the developed and developing world.
- To increase their awareness of physical and human factors which determine the nature of places and to describe and explain their similarities and differences.
- To research local, national and global issues using resources which include ICT and form opinions for debate.
- To develop an awareness of their responsibilities as Global Citizens.

Geography in the Curriculum

The National Curriculum provides further guidance by outlining the knowledge, skills and understanding which should be highlighted within each Key Stage. The National Curriculum website provides guidance as to attainment expectations at each stage.

The whole school plan aims to ensure progression and continuity in the knowledge and skills of Geography. Making links between aspects of Geography studied is encouraged, enabling children to build upon previous skills and experience.

Teaching and Learning

The use of a variety of enriching teaching approaches and of resources is encouraged through:-

- Oddizzi - a new interactive software for 2015

- Teacher presentations, role play and story telling.
- Question and answer sessions, discussions and debates about topical issues.
- Individual and group research and presentations.
- Photographs, pictures, maps and globes.
- ICT- interactive white board and internet resources, video, TV and other visual and audio resources.
- Fieldwork, visitors and visits to places of geographical interest especially in the local area.
- Special events devoted to issues such as Water, Fairtrade, Africa, Education etc

Emphasis is placed on the development of enquiry skills and empathy, as well as on factual knowledge. A cross-curricular / combined unit approach is encouraged. This makes it more likely that a rich humanities curriculum can be delivered, as well as providing a more creative, enjoyable approach to teaching and learning.

Assessment

Geography will be assessed continually against the National Curriculum Attainment Targets. The level descriptions will provide the basis for making judgements about pupil performance. To ensure standardisation of assessment samples of pupils work will be held on file by the geography co-ordinator.

Recording Pupils' Progress

Class teachers maintain their own day-to-day records of pupil progress. All pupils' progress will be monitored as they move through the school. Work in topic books will assist in assessing children's progress and copies will be filed by the geography coordinator

Reporting to Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers have 2 written reports and 2 parent's evenings to discuss their child's progress throughout the year.

Collecting Evidence

The geography co-ordinator and head teacher collect samples of work, across the ability range. This ensures that work is standardised, matches National Curriculum guidelines, and that teachers' planning reflects the levels of ability in each class. Evidence of work is available through topics books, displays in school, and in the planning folders of individual staff.

Equal Opportunities and Race Equality Policy

All children regardless of their race, sex, religion, religious belief or ability will be given equal opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of Geography. Children from a variety of ethnic backgrounds have an important part to play in developing a respect for those who live in other places. Their families' experiences are valued and included in our curriculum whenever possible.

SEN

Pupils with learning difficulties in geography are planned for through differentiated tasks and materials, outlined in short-term planning. These children are provided with the extra support and resources from the class teacher

Health and safety

Fieldwork and site visits are an important part of Geographical work and school health and safety guidelines will be adhered to at all times.

Roles and responsibilities

It is the role of the Geography co-ordinators, under the guidance of the Head teacher:

- To organise Geography within the curriculum and to ensure progression and development.
- To assist with and monitor planning and quality of delivery within the curriculum.
- To keep aware of developments within Geography and carry out INSET when required.
- To monitor and update resources in line with the budget.