



A wonderful and distinctive Christian school

Mottram CE Primary School

Geography Policy

This policy was adopted in Autumn 2022.

Communicators: Pupils will communicate and present their learning in a range of ways. They will be encouraged to communicate their viewpoints in a way that is respectful to others.

Explorers: Pupils will explore the Geography around them, in the local community and in the wider world. They will explore the human and physical features that make up our local landscape and how they have changed over time.

Readers: Children will have the opportunity to read and understand a variety of maps to help them develop their locational, place, physical and human knowledge.

Believers: All children will be encouraged to believe they can have a positive impact on our world, through understanding people, patterns, places and the problems our planet faces.

Intent

At Mottram CofE Primary School, Geography is a valued part of the curriculum, providing a purposeful means for exploring, appreciating and understanding the world in which we live, how people affect it and how it has evolved.

At Mottram, we intend to:

- Encourage children to think about their own place in the world so they can develop their sense of belonging.
- Understand their role and responsibilities to care and change our communities and the wider world for the better.
- Observe physical and human Geography in action through our perfectly elevated, semi-rural geographical position, whilst comparing and contrasting it to other environments in Europe and the world.
- Use the school's outdoor environment to acquire skills in carrying out observations and in collecting, organising, recording and retrieving information as part of an enquiry.

Implementation

Geography is taught through Topic lessons during the year.

These topics are varied and engaging and ensure a depth of learning as well as the progression of key knowledge, skills and curriculum content. The curriculum has been carefully crafted to ensure full coverage of all key areas, whilst developing a progression of skills. We follow our progression document to ensure knowledge and

skills are taught within each year group and it is clear and evident how these skills develop year on year.

Our lessons aim to be as practical as possible to ensure children are engaged and enjoying their learning and knowledge is being retained. Where possible, the local area is used for fieldwork to allow children to collect and analyse their own data. Opportunities for writing are also incorporated into Geography lessons. There are also opportunities for cross-curricular links and, where possible, non-fiction and fictional texts are linked to topics to ensure greater depth of understanding. To assess children, teaching staff use their knowledge of each child, the progression document and the National Curriculum. This enables teachers to facilitate differentiation and inform future planning.

Consideration is given to ensure all lessons are inclusive for different abilities whilst also aiming to provide opportunities to challenge all pupils where appropriate. From Years 1-6, at the end of each topic, children have the chance to showcase all they have learnt through the innovate stage of the Cornerstone Curriculum, to encourage ownership over their learning. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, Geography is taught through the specific area 'Understanding the World', where children begin to understand our local community and environment. Children will be introduced to new geographical vocabulary and be given opportunities to draw simple maps. Pupils are encouraged to explore the natural world around them and make observations about all they see. School trips and fieldwork also provide opportunities to further extend and embed their learning.

Impact

As our children progress throughout the school, they develop a deep knowledge, understanding and appreciation for their local area, country and the world. They recognise the importance of looking after the world we live in and how we can make small but effective changes to positively impact our ever-changing planet. Pupils are able to develop their own place in the world whilst also growing their own love for Geography.

Progress in Geography is monitored within individual lessons and across a range of Topics throughout the year. Pupils are assessed against the progression document, the learning objectives in the Cornerstones Curriculum and the National Curriculum. Pupil voice is gathered to assess the level of enjoyment in the subject, each pupil's understanding of the knowledge and skills they have been developing and to understand how pupils believe Geography impacts their own lives.

Assessments are gathered through questioning, paired and group work, quizzes and work in Topic books. Teachers carry out regular observations of how pupils perform in lessons to ensure they have gained the skills and knowledge taught, using verbal feedback, in the moment, to address misconceptions. Teachers are able to use these assessment methods to provide additional support or challenge pupils where needed.

Mottram CofE Primary School's unique place in world:

Latitude: 53°27'14.10"N

Longitude: 2° 0'34.74"W

EYFS – Understanding the World

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, Geography is taught through the specific area 'Understanding the World', where children begin to understand our local community and environment. Children will be introduced to new geographical vocabulary and be given opportunities to draw simple maps. Pupils are encouraged to explore the natural world around them and make observations about all they see. School trips and fieldwork also provide opportunities to further extend and embed their learning.

Key Stage 1 – National Curriculum

Children should develop knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom and their locality. They should begin to develop and understand basic subject-specific vocabulary relating to human and physical Geography and start to use geographical skills, including first-hand observation, to enhance their locational awareness. Children will develop their use of maps, globes, atlases and use simple compass directions. They should begin to express their view about the environment and recognise how people affect it.

Key Stage 2 – National Curriculum

Pupils should extend their knowledge and understanding beyond the local area to include the United Kingdom and Europe, North and South America. This will include the location and characteristics of a range of the world's most significant human and physical features. They should develop their use of geographical tools and skills to enhance their location and place knowledge. In Key Stage Two, children will develop their enquiry and investigation skills, using a range of maps, sources of geographical information and 1st hand data to present their fieldwork findings. They should express their opinion on relevant environmental issues and make changes to our communities and the wider world for the better, whilst understanding that others may think differently to them.

Cross-Curricular Links

Geography contributes significantly to the teaching of other subjects within our school. Computing is used during the teaching of Geography. For example, children will use online maps such as, Google Maps and Digimaps to explore human, physical, place and locational knowledge. Our pupils have the opportunity to express their views on the world through Geography allowing all to develop oracy skills and make links to PSHE.

Resources

We have a range of Geography resources, including: non-fiction books, maps, atlases, compasses and access to a wide range of educational websites. Our greatest resource is our local environment, full of human and physical features, surrounded by vast landscapes.

Equal Opportunities

At Mottram CE Primary School, we aim to give every pupil the opportunity to experience success in learning in Geography (and all other subjects). Teachers ensure pupils are given opportunities to achieve their full potential by planning classroom activities to support, challenge and involve all of our pupils.