**Kirkdale St Lawrence C of E Primary School**



**Curriculum Statement - Geography**

**Intent**

At Kirkdale St Lawrence, our intention is to provide a geography curriculum which will help to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum at Kirkdale St Lawrence enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which can and are used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops and understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; to promote the children’s interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth’s key physical and human processes. The curriculum is designed to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable, throughout their time at Kirkdale St Lawrence and also to their further education and beyond.

**Implementation**

At Kirkdale St Lawrence we have adopted the Cornerstones Maestro Curriculum, which follows a topic based cross-curricular approach covering a wide variety of curriculum subjects throughout different projects. This scheme of work has been developed to ensure that children have full coverage of the National Curriculum and EYFS requirements. This scheme provides the right balance between using Geography and other foundation subjects ensuring that creative and expressive arts get a fair representation across the curriculum. As a school we are following a two year rolling cycle (Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Y5/6) due to mixed age classes to ensure the best curriculum coverage. The Cornerstones curriculum ensure progression across the primary curriculum, building on prior learning and skills. Key Stage 1 & 2 have one main ‘Driver’ subject per term with a ‘Companion’ subject so that there is continuous coverage of the subject. Geography is taught weekly in each key stage where possible from either the ‘Driver’ or ‘Companion’ subject. Early Years Foundation Stage have two driver projects per term covering areas of the EYFS curriculum. Each topic has four stages – Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express. Every opportunity has been taken to help children apply English and Mathematic skills where it is possible to do so. Every attempt has been made to bring Geography to life by taking starting points from the children’s context with an emphasis on acquiring subject specific vocabulary activity at each lesson so that children develop a deeper understanding of geographical vocabulary in context. In this way it is hoped that Geography will be viewed as memorable, exciting and interesting.

As children progress, the topics chosen for study, fieldwork or visits should develop from familiar, concrete, local contexts to wider, more complex issues further afield. There will be opportunities for children to work in a number of different ways including attending residential trips, workshops in museums and learning sessions in ‘Forest School’.

**Impact**

The Geography Curriculum at Kirkdale St Lawrence is both challenging and creative. Impact of the learning will be in conversations with our pupils, Geography and Floor books with links with other subjects including having a strong presence in the ethos of the school through art, displays, performances, music, drama and collective worship. There will be evidence of a broad and balanced geography curriculum which demonstrates children’s acquisition of identified key knowledge relating to each of the identified national curriculum strands, as appropriate to key stage; locational knowledge, place knowledge and human and physical geography. This is in addition to the development and application of key skills, supported by fieldwork. As children progress throughout the school, they develop a deep knowledge, understanding an appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context.

Geography will be fun and it will inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. It will increase their knowledge and understanding of the world and it will be used to promote excellence and enjoyment which will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and beyond.