

S Finbar's Catholic Primary School

**Type:
Positional Statement**

**Geography Curriculum
Statement:
Intent, Implementation and Impact**

**Lead:
Miss Ferguson**

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September 2019**

**Review date:
September 2020**



Geography Curriculum Statement; Intent, Implementation and Impact

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Introduction

The National Curriculum (2014) sets out what children should be taught in schools across England and Wales. Schools may choose how they organise their school curriculum to cover the programmes of study from years 1 to 6. Children in their reception year follow the Early Years Foundation Stage programmes of learning. The teaching of Geography is statutory in all schools in England and Wales for Key Stage 2 children.

Intent – What we want our learners to get out of studying Geography

St Finbar's delivers a geography curriculum that is fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Geography, providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum and ensuring the progressive development of geographical concepts, knowledge and skills. We incorporate British values into our geography lessons, when appropriate, to ensure pupils understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain. It is important at St Finbar's for children to develop a love for geography and establish curiosity and fascination about the world. Pupils should gain geographical knowledge about 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 will educate children on the formation and use of landscapes and environments, which is linked to the local area where possible. St Finbar's want our learners to develop lifelong, geographical skills of using and interpreting a range of sources including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs, compass, six-figure grid references, symbols and key (Ordnance Survey Maps).

Implementation – How we plan and teach Geography

At St Finbar's, we ensure high standards of teaching and learning are present in geography by implementing a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. Geography is taught as part of a termly topic, focusing on knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. From year 1 to year 6, each child experiences a 60 minute geography lesson per week (alternates with History termly). Teachers plan lessons for their class using the National Curriculum objective and they use our progression of skills document as a useful resource. The progression document ensures the curriculum is covered and the skills taught are progressive throughout each year group. Teachers can also use the Geographical Association website as an aid for lesson ideas and resources. Geography teaching focuses on enabling children to think as geographers and displays are used in our school to highlight how children can be good geographers. Children follow the school's scheme of work and are continuously assessed against clear learning objectives. Staff are trained to ensure that geography is taught to a high standard and act upon any next steps that they are given to better their teaching. Teachers incorporate geographical resources into the lessons such as globes, maps, atlases, iPads/computers, compasses, grid references, diagrams and clipboards and pens for completing fieldwork. In EYFS, the curriculum is planned around providing every child with opportunities to learn and develop through planned, purposeful play, exploration and problem solving. Understanding the world will include exploring, investigating, using technology, discovering the living world, people and nature around them, experiencing other cultures and beliefs and thinking about different life events. Educational visits are another opportunity for the teachers to plan for additional geography learning outside the classroom. At St Finbar's, the children have had many opportunities to experience geography on educational visits, both inside and outside of our local area, including residential trips that facilitate a range of geographical activities such as orienteering.

Impact - What we achieve by delivering Geography in this way and how we know?

- We can challenge children further and discover their sticky learning by assessing children's understanding of topic through marking and next step questions.
- Assessment tasks are completed by each group, after each topic, to answer their main enquiry question for their topic. All of their learning from the topic is applied to this activity.
- Children are engaged with their geography learning in a range of different ways e.g. writing, discussions, map reading or physical activities. Images and videos show evidence of the children's practical learning.
- Children have a love for geography at St Finbar's and interviewing the pupils about their learning (pupil voice) shows evidence of this.
- We ensure the children are experiencing high quality teaching through moderation staff meetings where pupil's books are scrutinised and there is the opportunity for a dialogue between teachers to explain their classes' work and be provided with any next steps to improve teaching even further (book look).