

The Big picture (Overview)

Our geography curriculum is carefully structured to nurture a comprehensive understanding of the world and its diverse environments. We place a strong emphasis on the development of key geographical skills

Within our curriculum, pupils explore various geographical themes, delving into physical landscapes, human societies, and the interconnectedness between people and their environments. We foster inquiry-based learning, engaging students in exploring real-world issues and global challenges.

Overall, our primary geography curriculum is designed to cultivate global awareness, curiosity, and a sense of responsibility towards the planet, laying the foundation for our students to become informed and socially conscious citizens.

What it's like to be a Geographer in our school (pupil voice)

- I love walking around our area looking at things like lampposts, letter boxes and road signs (Y1)
- I like looking at an atlas to find out where countries mentioned on the news are in the world. (Y4)
- I didn't know that Mount Everest was the highest mountain in the world until we researched it in Y3 (Y6)
- My house is across the road from my school (R)

Teaching and Learning (Key learning and skills)

The geography curriculum at St Finbars aims to equip students with essential skills to understand and navigate the world around them.

Key skills include map reading and interpretation, fostering spatial awareness and the ability to analyse geographical data. Students develop an understanding of physical and human geography, exploring diverse landscapes and societies.

The curriculum encourages critical thinking through inquiry-based learning, engaging students in real-world problem-solving related to global issues. Fieldwork experiences further enhance observational and research skills, promoting a hands-on approach to geographical exploration.

Additionally, students learn to appreciate cultural, economic, and environmental interconnections, fostering a sense of global citizenship.

What we want our curriculum to help our children know and do (Intent)

Our school's geography curriculum is driven by a clear intent to cultivate inquisitive, informed, and globally aware individuals. Rooted in the belief that geographical knowledge and skills are fundamental to understanding the world, our curriculum seeks to inspire a deep appreciation for diverse environments, cultures, and societies.

Through a rich blend of interactive lessons, hands-on fieldwork experiences, and the integration of technology, our curriculum fosters critical thinking and inquiry-based learning. Furthermore, we strive to instil a sense of environmental responsibility and global citizenship, ensuring that our students are equipped not only with a sound understanding of geographical concepts but also with the skills and mindset needed to actively engage with and contribute to an ever-changing world.

How we organise our curriculum (Implement)

The implementation of our geography curriculum is meticulously designed to cater to the specific needs and developmental stages of each key phase. In Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1, our approach aligns closely with the National Curriculum, ensuring a solid foundation for geographical understanding. As pupils progress into Key Stage 2, we seamlessly transition into the Opening Worlds scheme, a comprehensive program designed to deepen their knowledge and skills in geography.

The implementation of our geography curriculum underscores a developmental progression, building a continuum of learning that begins in EYFS and extends into Key Stage 1 and 2. This cumulative approach ensures that each subsequent stage in the primary years builds upon the knowledge and skills acquired in previous years.

By tailoring our approach to each key stage and incorporating the Opening Worlds scheme in Key Stage 2, we aim to provide a well-rounded geography education that is both developmentally appropriate and intellectually stimulating for all children.

How we know children are knowing and doing more (Impact)

Children at St Finbar's are confident in sharing their learning. They are excited about geography and can articulate their learning well.

Our geography curriculum leaves a meaningful impact on children's learning. We actively measure their progress through a robust assessment framework. Regular assessments, including both summative evaluations and ongoing formative assessments, provide valuable insights into each child's grasp of geographical concepts and skills.

Summative assessments, conducted at key intervals, offer a comprehensive snapshot of academic achievements, while formative assessments, integrated seamlessly into daily lessons, allow us to adapt and tailor our teaching methods in real-time. These assessments not only measure knowledge retention but also gauge the application of geographical skills and critical thinking.