



St Finbar's
Catholic Primary School



Curriculum Overview

EYFS

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) in St Finbar's Primary School lays a crucial role in laying the foundation for a child's holistic development, including their understanding of geography and history. EYFS recognizes the importance of introducing young learners to the world around them, fostering an early curiosity about their environment and the past.

In the EYFS curriculum, geography is incorporated through activities that encourage children to explore and understand their immediate surroundings. This involves investigating local landmarks, maps, and diverse cultures, allowing children to develop a sense of place and belonging. Through hands-on experiences, children begin to grasp basic geographical concepts, such as location, direction, and distance, in a way that is engaging and age appropriate.

Similarly, the EYFS curriculum also introduces historical elements by encouraging children to explore the concept of time and change. Through stories, role-play, and exposure to historical artefacts, young learners start to develop an awareness of the past and an understanding of how things have evolved over time. This approach sparks their curiosity about history and helps build a foundation for later stages of learning.

EYFS at St Finbars serves as a critical bridge in a child's educational journey, laying the foundation for their continued learning throughout KS1 and KS2 particularly in the subjects of geography and history. By introducing basic concepts in these disciplines during the early years, EYFS paves the way for seamless progression. The hands-on exploration of local environments, maps, and cultural diversity not only sparks initial curiosity but also builds the spatial awareness and foundational knowledge necessary for more in-depth study in later years. Likewise, the exposure to historical elements in the EYFS curriculum, through stories and engaging activities, instil a sense of chronology and an understanding of the past. This early exposure creates links between events and developments, setting the stage for more comprehensive historical exploration in the primary education phase. In essence, EYFS acts as a springboard, fostering a positive attitude toward learning and providing the essential building blocks that children will continue to expand upon throughout their time at St Finbars.

Overall, the EYFS curriculum aims to make learning about geography and history a dynamic and enjoyable experience for young children, laying the groundwork for a lifelong appreciation of the world around them and the events that have shaped it.

Year 1

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Geography		Geography 1.8, 1.9 My local area		Geography 1.2, 1.9 A snapshot of the UK		Geography 1.4 Seasonal Changes/weather in UK

Year 2

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Geography	1.5 In my Liverpool home		1.1, 1.8 Colourful continents & Open Oceans		1.3 Home or Abroad UK or Jamaica	

Year 3



Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Rivers 1	Mountains	Settlements & cities	Agriculture	Volcanoes	Climate and Biomes
What are the similarities and differences between the Rivers Severn and the River Indus?	How do mountains interact with what is around them?	Map Skills 2: using a grid to find and compare locations. How are settlements similar and different?	Local fieldwork investigating local shops - their sourcing, economic and ethical considerations How are we connected to farmers?	How do volcanoes affect a place?	Map Skills 3: Basics in navigating the globe: equator, lines of latitude (gridlines) Arctic and Antarctic. How does the climate affect the way people live?

Year 4



Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Rhine and Mediterranean	Population	Coastal processes and landforms	Tourism	Earthquakes	Deserts
How do rivers affect the way people live?	How do populations differ from place to place?	How does the location of west Wales affect its coast?	Map Skills 4: grid squares, 4-figure references, some map symbols How do tourists interact with a place?	What are the pros and cons of living near a tectonic fault line?	Why are deserts located where they are?

Year 5



Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Why is California so thirsty? How have the actions of people affected the drought in California?	Oceans How do oceans affect human behaviour and settlements?	Migration in Europe and the world Why do people migrate?	North and South America Map Skills 5: practise 4-figure references; learn more map symbols; other kinds of maps What are the pros and cons of living in a megacity?	Amazon Basin Map Skills 6: practise 4-figure references; learn more map symbols; relief (height and depth). In what ways does the geography of South America affect the Amazon?	Interconnected Amazon Interpreting and drawing bar graphs, simple enquiry process, questionnaire How does agriculture in the Amazon interact with other parts of the world?

Year 6



Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Energy and climate change Disciplinary focus: Interaction How do local actions in the UK affect global climate?	Ethiopia Disciplinary focus: Interaction How do global changes affect local places in Ethiopia?	Changing Birmingham Disciplinary focus: change How much did Birmingham change between 1750 and the present day?	Jamaica Disciplinary focus: change What is a preferable future for Jamaica's tourist industry?	Local area enquiry (double unit) Enquiry question to be tailored to the local context and interests of the class (guidance provided for teachers)	