

Geography



Intent

Our intent for the Geography element of the Pochin curriculum is to instil in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. We believe that Geography helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world.

We have developed the progression of long-term skills and knowledge in our curriculum to ensure that children develop a range of transferable skills which could be used in all aspects of life. Our aim is for these skills to further facilitate promotion of children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. This is shown throughout our plans for progression in every year group, alongside facts and exciting opportunities for learning.

Our teaching should equip pupils with 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. Our progressive plans provide the framework and approaches that offer an explanation of how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. At Pochin, we intend to teach skills which will enable children to develop into global citizens, who understand their role in the world and how their actions have an impact on the world.

At Pochin, we encourage our children to investigate local geography, learning about their surroundings and how to protect them. This is developed in every class by our children completing fieldwork within the school grounds and our local community.

We intend for children to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes and how this affects landscapes and environments. Emphasis is placed on investigative learning opportunities to help children gain a coherent knowledge of understanding of each unit of work covered throughout the school.

Implementation

At The Pochin School, we implement a progressive geography curriculum that builds on prior knowledge and skills year on year. The geography curriculum will be taught through themes which are aimed to be challenging, inspiring, creative, nurturing and encourage active learning. The learners will revisit geographical skills and knowledge in order to embed and deepen understanding.

These skills are covered through a range of motivating experiences which engage the learner, such as visits from experts, outdoor learning in the school grounds and local area, fieldwork trips and class trips and residential trips.

The lessons are carefully planned to ensure that all children are well supported in their learning and that opportunities for depth is planned for. We ensure that trips and visiting experts enhance the learning experiences for the children.

Planning is based on our rolling programme, which is carefully designed to cover each aspect of the Geography curriculum over the two years.

In Key Stage 1, the children learn about local, national and international geography, acquiring basic map reading skills, learning what a city is, weather monitoring and exploring their local environment. In Key Stage 2, we expand international geography further by delving deeper into human and physical geography.

Children will learn about geographical processes such as how mountains are formed, the journey of a river, the water cycle, erosion and deforestation.

In our French exchange every alternate year, our learners have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills they have embedded during their primary school years e.g. a self-guided day walk, deploying their map skills using Ordnance Survey maps. In geography, as in other subjects, pupils have wide opportunities to apply and practice their reading and writing skills.

Impact

By the end of their primary education at The Pochin School, our learners will be equipped with the geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the secondary curriculum and for life as an adult in the wider world. The children will be able to discuss their learning and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding through a range of activities.

We aspire for children to leave The Pochin School being able to debate and discuss geographical issues and to be able to reflect and form their own opinions on matters such as climate change and natural disasters.

We measure our impact based on pupils' confidence to ask and explore questions to further their own geographical knowledge and understanding. They will be inquisitive young learners and citizens who choose to understand global environmental issues and seek to make a personal difference in protecting and shaping the world we share.

The children's learning is assessed against the age-related expectation bands that are based on the 2014 National Curriculum statements for Geography. We offer a variety of practical opportunities such as quizzes, discussions and presentations, supporting children to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills. This enables teachers to set appropriate, progressive targets and challenge children in their thinking and learning. In this way, we prepare our learners fully for transition to secondary school when they leave The Pochin School.