

# Oulton Primary School

## Geography Curriculum Intent

### Intent

At Oulton Primary School, our aim is to provide a diverse geography curriculum which ensures children develop the progressive skills required whilst fostering a love, fascination and curiosity about the world and people around them. Our curriculum will equip our pupils with a deep knowledge and understanding of human and natural environments alongside the Earth's key physical and human processes and how these landscapes change over time. Through our detailed planning, we aim to grow children's geographical knowledge and understanding which is revisited and built upon as children move through our key stages. Our varied lessons allow our pupils to explore and interpret a range of concepts and geographical information through sources such as maps, diagrams and globes.

### Implementation

Here at Oulton, Geography is taught through broad and engaging topics in which the children are actively encouraged to enquire and investigate the world around them. Teachers ensure key vocabulary for specific key stages are taught and referred to throughout topics and revisited regularly.

In the EYFS, children are encouraged to explore the world and environment around them through play based, child centred learning. Pupils are given many opportunities to explore our woodland area to see first-hand the natural environment which surrounds them and compare this to other areas they might see such as the towns and villages they live in. They explore the changes in weather and seasons and how this affects their immediate location by spending time discovering outside and experiencing the physical changes around them. Geographical concepts taught are based upon what the children know already and how this can be developed and enhanced.

In Key Stage One, children are introduced to their local area and the key human and physical features they would find. Learning is consolidated and heightened as many opportunities are provided for children to explore the immediate school environment and their local area by taking part in basic fieldwork to give them the opportunity to view and discuss features that have been covered in lessons. This allows the geography curriculum to be brought to life and put into context alongside cementing learnt vocabulary in real life situations. Our pupils are introduced to map skills by exploring simple keys and symbols and implementing this by creating their own maps often in the context of cross curricular learning. Pupils are also exposed to simple globes and how we can use these to identify continents and oceans. Children are encouraged to draw simple comparisons between an area of the United Kingdom (which will build on prior learning of the UK) and a country within Europe; linking this to physical and human geography and applying known vocabulary.

In Key Stage Two, Geography is taught in half termly blocks within an overarching topic. Children are given an individual knowledge organiser at the beginning of a topic which highlights the key skills, vocabulary, maps and features that will be taught throughout the unit and referred back to through regular 'no-pressure' quizzes to ensure retrieval of key

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vocabulary and content within a unit. Map skills are built upon from key stage one by looking at more complex symbols and keys and how to follow a given route. Pupils are able to use these skills to create their own maps complete with keys and symbols. Alongside this, they are taught how to identify significant locations on a map using the appropriate grid reference and vocabulary. They also become secure using compass points and develop an understanding of how these have a crucial role in following a set route; building on and encouraging application of fieldwork skills. Children look at their local area extending its relation to the wider world to explore and enquire how areas differ through an extended study of a range of countries. In key stage two, children are also introduced to waterways, geographical formations and begin to consider the range of climates on Earth. This will and encourage an inquisitive mind about the physical processes of the Earth. Children's wider geographical skills are further built upon when wider global issues are debated and studied as they consider an interconnected world through an in-depth study of a range of countries and the impact that certain trades have on the Earth. This provides children with the opportunity to develop their own thoughts and ideas of not only the wider world, but on how to care for our environment and the impact that we, as humans, have on it- both positive and negative.

### **Impact**

Children will develop a deep geographical understanding through which a love of and curiosity for the world and people around them will be fostered. They will have a wide range of vocabulary and skills to draw upon which they can implement both in lessons and in real life situations. As children progress throughout the school, they will develop a secure knowledge, understanding and appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context of the world.