

School Policy for Geography

1. Introduction

1.1. Geography is about the study of places, the human and physical processes which shape them, and the people who live in them.

1.2. Geography helps us to understand the ways of life and cultures of people in other places.

1.3. This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of Geography taught at Uffington School.

1.4. This policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the teaching staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body.

1.5. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the teaching staff.

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2. Entitlement

2.1. Geography is a foundation subject of the National Curriculum.

2.2. All children are taught geographical skills and knowledge, through the study of places and themes, as outlined in the programmes of study in the National Curriculum.

3. Aims and Objectives

3.1. To teach the children to identify physical and human processes and describe some of their effects on the environment.

3.2. To develop the children's knowledge and understanding of differing localities at home and abroad.

3.3. To teach and encourage the use of geographical skills.

4. Implementation

4.1. Throughout the school, the children study their own locality. The area expands as the children's understanding of geography increases.

4.2. Geography provides opportunities to develop the skills of Literacy, Numeracy and ICT. Such opportunities are identified and incorporated into medium and short term plans for Geography.

4.3. The four aspects of geographical skills: Geographical Enquiry and Skills, Knowledge and Understanding of Places, Knowledge and Understanding of Patterns and Processes and Knowledge and Understanding of Environmental Change and Sustainable Development are taught within themes and place studies. However, map skills may be taught separately as appropriate.

4.4. In Key Stage 1, pupils are taught the Knowledge, Skills and Understanding through the studies of two localities as identified in the Programme of Study for Geography.

4.5. In Key Stage 2, pupils are taught the Knowledge, Skills and Understanding through the studies of two localities and three themes as identified in the Programme of Study for Geography.

4.6. In the Foundation Stage work in Geography is planned according to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals. Geography makes a significant contribution to the ELG objective of developing knowledge and understanding of the world.

4.7. Children have opportunities to use globes, atlases, a range of maps, aerial photographs and equipment for measuring and recording.

4.8. Children throughout the school are encouraged to use the correct vocabulary when describing places and geographical processes.

4.9. Information and Communications Technology is used to support teaching and learning in Geography throughout the school; this includes the use of geographical software and data handling packages, programmable robots, Logo, the Internet and digital cameras.

4.10. All geographical activities are planned to encourage full and active participation by all children, irrespective of ability.

4.11. In the study of distant localities, our focus is upon the lives of real people and families in order to avoid stereotyping.

5. Assessment and Recording

The child's understanding of the geographical themes and skills is assessed by the teacher through observation and discussion. Progress in Geography is reported to parents annually as part of the Individual Report.

6. Monitoring and Review

The Headteacher and staff will review this policy biennially. Any suggested amendments will be presented to the Governing Body at their first meeting following review.

Latest review July 2012

