

Juniper Hill School

Geography Policy



Kindness Enjoyment Achievement

This policy was written in January 2026

Review Date: January 2028

Geography is the study of places and people. The teaching of Geography provides children with the chance to develop their understanding of the relationship between the world and people. It looks at the human and physical features of the Earth and how they affect each other. Geography promotes a want to discover more about the world around us, both in close proximity to where we live and across the world. We can understand how we can explore and appreciate the world and help us consider how our actions can affect the world around us and the need to be responsible citizens.

Intent

At Juniper, our Geography provision provides the children with a broad and balanced curriculum. One which allows them to learn and ask questions about the world they live in and develop their understanding of our place in the world. The curriculum, ensures opportunities for the children to learn about many aspects of the world we live in and make connections between localities, countries and the world. We are ambitious for our geographers, giving opportunities to learn about a range of places and concepts and allowing them time to understand physical processes and how humans interact with the planet. Our curriculum also has depth, encouraging our children to be like Geographers: to explore, to appreciate and to act. Themes are revisited and skills and knowledge are built upon from EYFS to year 6. We aim to inspire curiosity and develop a fascination with the world that is lifelong.

Introduction

Our school vision is to empower our community to have the courage to make a difference in the world, teaching children to be curious about the world and working together to enable everyone to achieve their goals. Therefore, our Geography Policy is underpinned by our three aims:

Kindness - we encourage children to be kind to each other; developing collaborative skills and nurturing positive attitudes to team work.




Enjoyment - enjoyment is at the core of learning and through exciting teaching, geography gives the children opportunities to explore the world around them and to think critically and curiously.

Achievement – we want everyone to achieve all they can, by engaging our pupils with quality teaching and learning opportunities.




Aims

The Geography Subject Leader and leadership team support staff to deliver a high-quality Geography Curriculum. A high-quality geography education equips pupils, through both physical and human geography, to understand the world we live in and to make sense of their place within it. By the end of year 6, children will understand the features of where they live and more broadly countries and continents within the world, their physical features and how humans interact and affect the world in which we live.

We expect our children to:

-  know and understand the physical features of globally significant places, including their defining human and physical features
-  understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world
-  develop knowledge about the world to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments

To be proficient in geographical skills to:

-  collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes
-  interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs
-  communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length

Curriculum

Our curriculum has been developed and written after consultation with staff. The Geography curriculum at Juniper is progressive, ambitious and reflects the national curriculum and covers the 4 main themes:

- Locational knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and physical geography
- Geographical skills and fieldwork

EYFS

Within the Early Years Foundation Stage, geography is included as part of Understanding the World. The children learn to investigate similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. They will describe their immediate environment, using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.

Implementation

At Juniper, Geography is taught as a discrete subject. The skills and knowledge are developed and built upon each year so that progression can be seen clearly across the school. All children are exposed to key geographical concepts each year giving them the opportunity to explore, develop and embed their skills, knowledge and understanding, from EYFS to Year Six.

Children are encouraged, to be like a Geographer. The children will ask questions and consider the concepts learnt, the impact on the world and its inhabitants and consider future actions.

Assessment

We assess the children's work in Geography by making informal judgements about their work in class as they are working and then by marking after the lesson in line with the school's marking policy. This is then used when planning the teaching of future lessons and topics and informs how future lessons are delivered.

At the end of each unit, the key knowledge, understanding and where appropriate fieldwork skills will be assessed by the class teacher. This is completed against a TAFS document that records all of the expected learning outcomes. The class teacher uses this to assess whether each child is working towards the expected level, working at the expected level or working above the expected level. This assessment is shared in a child's end of year report.

Resources

We have a range of resources to support the teaching of Geography at Juniper. Field work is supported through physical and digital resources including data loggers and Digimaps.

Equal Opportunities, Inclusion, SEND

It is our policy to ensure that all children, regardless of race, class, or gender should have the opportunities in Geography to develop their knowledge and understanding the world and their place in it. Lessons are tailored so that all children can access the curriculum. Materials provided are not biased towards any class, race or gender. Teachers provide suitable challenges for more able children as well as support for those who have emerging needs.

British Values

We aim to demonstrate British values through our teaching of Geography:

Democracy

- Listening to everyone's ideas to form a majority or consensus
- Working as part of a team and collaborating to challenge thinking

Rule of Law

- Understanding the expectations and how they respond positively to feedback
- Geography is dynamic and laws relating to migration maybe discussed. Consider laws in other countries and discuss their impacts on that country.

Individual Liberty

- Taking responsibility for own behaviours
- Challenging stereotypes, bias and to learn how to become independent learners

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

- How faiths and cultures have built societies
- Tolerance towards others' opinions.

Monitoring

Working with Senior Leadership Team, the subject leader will monitor for the standard of the children's work and the quality of teaching in Geography. They are also responsible for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses in the subject and indicating areas for improvement and identify CPD. Data from end of year reports is evaluated.

Roles and responsibilities

The Geography Lead is Cara Duhan. The Geography Lead is responsible for raising the profile of Geography throughout the school and maintaining best practice. This job description is reviewed annually and covers the following aspects.

- Leading the development of Geography within the school
- Monitoring the subject's planning, teaching and learning
- Helping raise standards
- Providing teachers with support in the teaching of Geography, including with subject knowledge and effective pedagogies
- Monitoring and maintaining high quality subject resources
- Keeping up to date with new developments in the subjects
- Developing an annual action plan agreed with the headteacher
- Meeting with the Curriculum Lead Governor

Health and Safety

At Juniper, we ensure that before any fieldwork or field trips a full risk assessment is completed.

Impact

Children at Juniper Hill will become confident, curious geographers who are aware of their place within the world. They will have a secure and thorough knowledge of the world around them, how it has changed and the impact humans can have on the world. They will have the courage to become impactful global citizens.