

Aim of the Geography Curriculum

At Canterbury Cross, we believe a high-quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

The overarching aim for Geography is to deliver a curriculum that can-

- Develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places, including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.
- Understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- Be competent in the geographical skills needed 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 and aerial photographs and communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills

How is the Geography programme of study implemented?

Through a carefully tailored curriculum based on enquiry, our children will develop into explorers demonstrating curiosity and fascination about the world. Geography instils a sense of 'awe and wonder'. Our teaching equips pupils with knowledge about places and people; resources in the environment; physical and human processes; formation and use of landscapes. We want children to develop the geographical skills of collecting and analysing data; using maps, globes, aerial photographs and digital mapping to name and identify countries, continents and oceans; and communicating information in a variety of ways.

Teachers plan sequences of lessons across their unit that will build on and develop the children's knowledge and skills. Children have access to key vocabulary, definitions and a range of resources, which promotes connections to be made across all core and foundation subjects where applicable. Children will learn about different geographical features, and this will be embedded by studying different locations around the world. To develop their knowledge and understanding, pupils will access atlases, maps, digital technology and photographs using the Digi Maps programme.

Creating memorable experiences to develop our pupil's cultural capital is paramount. Pupils have opportunities to go on educational visits and take part in home learning projects. Additionally, most year groups focus on different aspects of the local area. This gives the pupils a chance to explore and deepen their knowledge of their local and surrounding environment and therefore have a better understanding of their place in the world.

The Early Years Foundation Stage follows the 'Development Matters in the EYFS guidance' which aims for all children in the Foundation Stage to have an 'Understanding of the World; people and communities, the world and technology'. Children are supported in developing the knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world. Their learning is supported through offering opportunities for them to encounter a variety of maps, different people and their cultures and to investigate their immediate and local environments – indoor and outdoor. Focused activities are planned to incorporate these opportunities. Provision, where children have the opportunity to engage in self-initiated activities in order to develop their geographic skills, curiosity and a widening vocabulary, is planned weekly.

Geography Unit Overview

Year 1 - Geography	The Isles of Scilly	My School AND My School Grounds (combined)
Year 2 - Geography	Serrekunda	Surrounding Environment AND Fieldwork in Practice (combined)
Year 3 - Geography	Amazon Basin (combine Global Citizen focussing on ethics)	East Anglia
Year 4 - Geography	Naples and Campania	Athens and Central Greece
Year 5 - Geography	California	The Local Area and A River Study - The River Cole
Year 6 - Geography	South Wales	The World in My School

Our local area consists of Birchfield, Aston, Handsworth.

How is the Geography assessed focusing on prior knowledge and progression?

Children are assessed on four key areas of Geography: Geographical skills and fieldwork, human and physical geography, locational knowledge and place knowledge.

Assessment in geography is an ongoing process. Teachers assess against learning objectives in individual lessons with each lesson and series of lessons aiming to incorporate and embed key skills and cover specified knowledge. By the end of each topic, teacher use 'Geography End Points' to assess against each specific objective. Pupils also engage in self-assessment. Teachers make informal judgements about children's progress and attainment throughout each topic. Geographical knowledge and skills are formally tracked using the school's formative and summative assessment system.

How do we ensure the Geography curriculum is for everyone?

We want children to be curious to know more about the world we live in. We recognise that there are children with a range of abilities in all our classes, and so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children. We achieve this through a range of strategies and differentiation by expected outcome and support from peers, resources or adults.

How do we ensure key content is remembered as pupils move through school?

Within the academic year, children study geography in blocks as outlined in the overall curriculum overview. This allows children to enhance their geographical knowledge and develop their geographical skills through focused weekly learning, throughout the duration of each block. This model also promotes the achievement of a greater depth of understanding by the end of a unit and transferable skills as children move up through school.

How does the Geography curriculum prepare children for the future and allow children to apply the key skills learnt?

Upon leaving Canterbury Cross Primary School, we hope all children continue to be curious about the world and are competent at using practical skills, methods and approaches of geographical enquiry. Children will have developed a global perspective necessary for an interconnected world. Environment awareness and a focus on sustainability instils a sense of responsibility for the planet, preparing children to address environmental challenges and engage with global issues.