



## Geography Curriculum at Gaddesden Row School



### Intent

At Gaddesden Row Primary School we believe that Geography helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. Our Geography curriculum is designed to promote the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments; provide a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes and; to inspire in our children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people, which will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum at Gaddesden Row enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable to other curriculum areas and which will promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills.

Children will investigate a range of places - both in Britain and abroad - to help develop their knowledge and understanding of the Earth's physical and human processes. We are committed to providing children with opportunities to investigate and make enquiries about their local area of Gaddesden Row, Hemel Hempstead and Hertfordshire so that they can develop a real sense of who they are, their heritage and what makes our local area unique and special.

Through high quality teaching, we develop the following essential characteristics of geographers:

- An excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like, both in Britain and the wider world;
- An comprehensive understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected;
- An extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary;

- Fluency in complex, geographical enquiry and the ability to apply questioning skills, as well as effective presentation techniques;
- The ability to reach clear conclusions and explain their findings;
- Excellent fieldwork skills as well as other geographical aptitudes and techniques;
- The ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current issues in society and the environment and;
- A genuine interest in the subject and a real sense of curiosity about the world and the people who live here.

### **Implementation**

Our curriculum aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. Our geography curriculum is taught using a rolling cycle to ensure that National Curriculum coverage is met for our mixed-age classes.

Geography at Gaddesden Row is taught weekly, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school.

At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they know already as well as what they would like to find out. This informs the programme of study and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated within each lesson, as well as how learners will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion.

Cross curricular outcomes in geography are specifically planned for, with strong links between geography and literacy lessons identified, planned for and utilised. The local area is fully utilised to achieve the desired outcomes, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice.

### **Impact**

Outcomes in topic and literacy books evidence a broad and balanced geography curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of identified key knowledge. Children, irrespective of background, ability or additional needs, will have developed the geographical knowledge and skills to help them explore, navigate and understand the world around them and their place in it. Children's knowledge, skills and appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context will develop progressively as they move through the school, not only to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum but to prepare them to become competent geographers in secondary education and beyond. Regular school trips provide further relevant and contextual learning.