



## St Marie's Geography Curriculum

### Intent

At St Marie's, our intention is for each child to leave our school with a deep curiosity and fascination about their wonderful world. Our progressive geography curriculum is carefully planned to encourage and support children to develop a greater understanding of the world around them and where they fit into it. From their earliest geography lessons in school, children will begin to learn more about the world that is familiar to them - our school, our local area and our families. As they progress through KS1 and into KS2, they will expand their knowledge and skills, learning about the wider world - the different oceans, continents, communities and cultures all over the world.

We want our children to be confident exploring a range of resources and become competent in using world maps on their classroom walls, globes and atlases, and technology such as Google Earth.

Geography should be woven into all areas of the curriculum and not just taught as a standalone subject. Whether reading exciting novels set in different places in their English lessons, learning about habitats in science or learning about world faiths in religious education, children at St Marie's will understand how their geography education transfers to countless other aspects of learning and life.

### Implementation

At St Marie's, we dedicate a whole term to geography. Children progress in their learning through in-depth studies, where they are encouraged to steer their own learning by responding to an enquiry question. Units of study are carefully chosen so that knowledge, skills and understanding are built on, and children make good progress, as well as linking to topics in other curriculum areas, such as science.

We are lucky to have a wonderfully diverse school community, with our families coming from all over the world. Children's geography learning is further enhanced as members of our community come into school to teach them about other cultures and places, for example learning African dancing and reading traditional stories.

Geography learning is also developed through regular special events during the school year, including Black History Month, world faith weeks and language of the month.

Our school's partnerships and links with organisations such as CAFOD add another layer to the geography curriculum. These links highlight global issues and children are given an insight into the lives of all sorts of people around the world.

In addition, each year group studies a universal church RE unit about common good. In these units, children learn more about poverty, fair trade, the wonders of creation and the importance of being good stewards of the earth, living in harmony with everyone and everything else.

Educational visits are planned to enrich children's learning within the geography curriculum.

### Impact

Children love to learn about the world and can confidently talk about their place within it. They have a deep respect for the environment and feel empowered to make changes towards a more sustainable future. They are curious about other people and other cultures, and they respect and appreciate diversity. Children's progress is evidenced through work in their books, the geography floor books and through conversations with their teachers and the subject leader, where they use subject specific vocabulary confidently and accurately. This progress matches the geography national curriculum aims.