



Our Vision for Geography at St. Matthew's Primary School

Geography is a study of how the world works. It has the potential to capture the minds of children like no other subject and that is what our teachers aim for when delivering their topics. It provides an opportunity for children to recognise our local environment in relation to many other areas of our world. Allowing them to build connections between near and far places, recognising the vast amount of similarities and differences cultures and environments share across the world. The National Curriculum (2014) states, "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."

Here at St Matthew's, our Reception children will focus on new routines in their immediate environment e.g. 'the classroom' visiting the school hall or church and understanding the locality of the school and how they get here. Children will know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.

After this, they will explore map work of their own locality and that of the school, the United Kingdom and its capital cities. They will contrast their city with that of the countryside and they will identify seasonal weather patterns and look at hot and cold areas of the globe, oceans and continents, all before they end Key Stage 1.

As they move on to Key Stage 2, children will extend their knowledge to wider areas of the globe and develop an enquiry led investigation into their topic. They will look at human and physical features of our planet including weather patterns and natural disasters. They will explore the impact of time zones, understand the significance of latitude and longitude as well as being able to locate different countries and their borders. Children will study physical changes in and on the Earth as well as economic activity (including the distribution of food, energy and water.) Children will explore the world through more abstract maps and coordinates and research the impact/need for sustainability and responsible tourism around the world.