

***“Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future.***

***What could be more important than that?” Michael Palin, 2007.***



## **Geography Curriculum Statement**

### **Intent:**

At Purbrook Junior School, we inspire curiosity in the world by investigating a wide range of locations around the globe using a geographical enquiry-based approach. The children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it by developing their knowledge and understanding of the Earth's physical and human features and processes and interactions between them. The geography curriculum at Purbrook enables children to utilise these skills in other curriculum areas and gives their learning real-life purpose. Topics have been informed by the National and school Curriculum and are chosen with the purpose of broadening the children's knowledge of the wider world and experience landforms, people, places, and cultures that are outside of their normal sphere of experience. Here at Purbrook we place value on cultural experiences and many units of study are accompanied by trips, visits, or visitors.

### **Implementation:**

To achieve depth of learning Geography is taught each term, incorporating cross-curricular links with other subjects. Year leaders and class teachers are supported in their planning through the use of knowledge organisers created by the geography subject lead. Regular monitoring is done to review, and quality assure the subject area to ensure it is well-implemented and that coverage, breadth and balance is adequate. This is done by a triangulated approach of lesson observation, work scrutiny and pupil voice.

Planning shows progression through the year groups. Each unit of geography provides opportunities to include;

Geographical enquiries.

Extended or shorter focused pieces of writing in a variety of different forms for a range of purposes.

Analysis and interpretation of a variety of maps at different scales as well as other geographical data.

Text annotation or visual organisers such as thought mapping, storyboards, concept mapping or timelines.

Oral work such as pupil presentations to the class, contributions to class discussions, drama activities or discussions with teachers.

Drawing of sketch maps, diagrams, field sketches.

Pupils' self-assessment.

Teaching subject specific vocabulary is a key part of our geography curriculum. Children are immersed in geographic vocabulary, which aids their knowledge and understanding not only of the topic they are studying, but of the world around them. Key vocabulary is shared and explored during each unit of work and used by both staff and pupils throughout, both verbally and in written work.

**Impact:**

Our high-quality geography curriculum is designed and planned to demonstrate the progression of the three aspects of pupils' achievements in geography:

Contextual world knowledge of locations, places and geographical features.

Understanding of the conditions, processes and interactions that explain features and distributions, patterns and changes over time and space.

Competence in geographical enquiry, the application of skills in observing, collecting, analysing, mapping and communicating geographical information.

We ensure that by the end of year 6, children at Purbrook Junior School are equipped with the geographical skills and knowledge required to enable them to be ready for the key stage 3 curriculum, and for life as an adult in the wider world. Children will have enjoyed learning geography and will be inspired and encouraged to undertake new life experiences now and in the future.