

GEOGRAPHY

Geography at Red Gates

Geography is a foundation subject at Red Gates and pupils are given opportunities to gain understanding of geography through explicit lessons and through a cross-curricular approach. We aim to develop knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments.

Pupils are encouraged to explore a range of key Geographical content through the topics they are learning and apply a range of skills within the Geographical context to expand their growing knowledge and understanding about their world and the world around them. Geography for our pupils is building on prior knowledge and experiences, developing new experiences to expand the knowledge and understanding of: where places are, how places and landscapes are formed, different environments, and how people interact with the environment. Classes have weekly community visits to local parks, shops, library, cafes, and/or to go for a walks in our local area. Community visits give our pupils opportunities to learn more about the different environments within our local community. Pupils enjoy two full day trips throughout the year to celebrate their learning, linked to their topics, and to extend the knowledge and understanding of the wider community. To expand our children's experiences, knowledge and understanding we use ICT to have virtual trips to explore the wider world. Pupils from yr1 - yr6 have a term of weekly swimming lessons at a nearby leisure centre and established links with local schools give opportunities to explore different learning environments regularly.

EYFS

Geography is learnt through a cross-curricular approach and links in with the understanding the World-People & Communities strand in the EYFS Curriculum. In EYFS developing an understanding of geography starts with learning about the environment around us, beginning with the classroom, our school environment and our local community. Pupils are encouraged to express their understanding by showing curiosity about people and places familiar to them, and showing understanding of the learning environments at school, such as, the specialists rooms and outdoor learning environments. Objects of reference, photos and/or symbols are used to support communication and help our pupils make connections to the places they have access to at school. After the children become familiar with our school environment and routine, it is time to explore the local area.

LISS

Geography in the LISS pathway is taught with both explicit lessons and a cross-curricular approach. Lessons allow the pupils to explore, experience, and develop an understanding of the local community, the wider world, and to develop independence while accessing the different environments they may come across in their life. Pupils develop an understanding of the expectations of a variety of environments such as, at school, when visiting local shops or places in the community, when the weather changes, and with different jobs and responsibilities. Pupils learn how to use maps for directions and build an understanding of where places are in the world, and they explore learn about people, cultures, animals and habitat from all over the world.

Sensory

Geography in Sensory Pathway is taught across the curriculum through a high multisensory approach with practical elements of exploration and investigation. Linked though our topics, geography is explored through using our senses in activities that are dedicated to a specific geographical environment. Pupils participate in a variety of activities that have been adapted and individualised to suit the needs and abilities of the pupils. Activities such as exploring sensory media that represent an environment, a scavenger/ nature hunts around school to help pupils explore and learn through experiences in their school environment, and regular community visit and leisure activities, such as, Forest School Inclusion sessions at Courtwood Primary and swimming lessons.

ASD

Geography in the ASD pathway is taught with both explicit lessons and a cross-curricular approach. Community visits are one of favourite activities and provide weekly experiences of interactions with our local community, teach the necessity of staying safe, predictability of the environment outside and help embed the learning taking place in the classroom. We enrich pupil's learning by focussing on specific geographical features linked to current topic. For example, plan local journeys, discussions on where children go to visit friends and relatives, places children might visit in the UK and abroad, visiting other classes, and schools (Gilbert Scott). Pupils further develop understanding of the world around them through exploring and identifying geographical features, such as buildings, land terrains, natural species and habitats, people and cultures, and understanding maps.