

Geography at Stanley Grove Primary Academy



At Stanley Grove Primary Academy we provide a curriculum that has been designed for our community. Our carefully selected drivers shape the curriculum, bring about the aims and values of the school, and respond to the particular needs of our pupils: **Communication:** we listen, express ourselves, collaborate and perform with confidence; **Exploration:** we are curious to dig deeper, make links and have new experiences ; **Creativity:** we are reflective and use our imaginations to problem solve and create something new of value. Blending knowledge and skills, our curriculum is rich in language and vocabulary, and learning is supported through enriching experiences.

As a **Gold UNICEF Rights Respecting** and **Nurture UK** school, we promote children's rights, nurture principles and the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of others.

Why we teach Geography

Geography is about understanding the world we live in. It draws on its vast range of core geographical vocabulary to identify and name places, the features within them and the human and physical processes at work there.

Such core knowledge provides the building blocks for deeper explanation and understanding; providing entry points to geographical conversations about the world.

Geography is more than just core knowledge. Places are dynamic and often space is perceived, used and contested by people in many different ways. Geography seeks to understand how different views, values and perspectives influence and affect places and environments. It helps explain why places are changing, how they are interconnected and why patterns of inequality exist on a local and global scale.

Geography deals with the 'here and now' of real life and, as such, is a vital 'living' subject that contributes to, and enhances, the wider curriculum. Although geography can be taught alone, it offers meaningful contexts for high quality, cross curricular work. It helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of our world.

How we teach Geography

Where possible, geography is linked to other curricular areas, allowing children to see the relevance of experiences in their own life and the world around them. Teachers are supported by our curriculum to deliver lessons with specific lines of enquiry, whilst providing contexts that are meaningful and relevant to the children. Teachers cover the knowledge and skills required for each year group as outlined in the National Curriculum and plan for progression in geographical thinking.

Geography lessons are interactive and promote collaborative learning between pupils. Direct teaching takes place when introducing new knowledge and skills and pupils are given independent learning opportunities to practice and apply their learning. Prior learning is revisited systematically.

Teaching is inclusive, and adaptations are made to ensure that all children can access the learning.

What Geography looks like at Stanley Grove

Our lessons equip pupils with knowledge about places, people, resources and natural and human environments, supporting a deep understanding of the Earth's physical and human processes. A high focus on geographical vocabulary enables pupils to communicate as geographers.

Our whole school 'explore plan' provides opportunities for pupils to go off site to different locations to carry out fieldwork that links directly to their current learning in geography.

Ongoing assessments, using key questions linked to each unit of study, identify misconceptions to be addressed, and summative assessments are completed termly.

Book looks, lesson drop-ins and pupil voice help to create a detailed picture of how well geography is being delivered throughout school.

Geography displays and photographs of pupils' experiences promote geography and enthuse learners about the subject and are used to support revisits to prior learning.

Upon leaving Stanley Grove, children will have the geographical skills they require to analyse world events, make rational decisions, understand the physical systems of everyday life and relate knowledge of their own environment to that of different places and communities around the world.

Teacher input is sought when reviewing the geography curriculum and adaptations and improvements are considered, ensuring themes continue to be relevant and interesting for the pupils.



"I love geography especially the visit to the beach and countryside."

Year 3 child.

Communication

Exploration

Creativity

