

WELBECK PRIMARY SCHOOL



Geography Policy

Approved	July 2025
Next Review	July 2026

Geography at Welbeck

- **Geography** is a valued part of our curriculum, providing a purposeful means for exploring, appreciating, and understanding the world in which we live and how it has evolved. It explores the relationship between the Earth and its people through the study of place, space, and environment. Our Geography curriculum aims to inspire a lifelong interest in the world and its people. Through outdoor learning, oracy development, cross-curricular integration, and ongoing staff training, we strive to provide a comprehensive and engaging Geography education.
- **Outdoor Learning:** We believe that outdoor learning is essential in Geography. It helps build curiosity and a deeper understanding of the subject. Students engage in practical and fieldwork activities, exploring their local environment, Forest Garden and beyond. This hands-on approach allows them to observe, investigate, and understand geographical concepts in real-world settings
- **Oracy:** Developing oracy skills is integral to our Geography curriculum. Students are encouraged to discuss, debate, and present their findings on various geographical topics. This enhances their communication skills and helps them articulate their understanding of complex concepts clearly and confidently
- **Cross-Curricular Links:** Geography is interconnected with many other subjects. We integrate Geography with Science, History, and Art to provide a holistic learning experience. For example, while studying ecosystems in Science, students can explore geographical aspects such as climate and terrain. This approach enriches their learning and helps them see the connections between different areas of knowledge
- **Staff Training:** Continuous professional development is crucial for delivering high-quality Geography education. Our staff participate in regular training sessions to stay updated with the latest teaching strategies and geographical knowledge. This ensures that they are well-equipped to inspire and educate our students effectively

Aims and objectives

Our Geography policy follows the National Curriculum 2014 for Geography and ensures that all children are given the opportunity to experience and learn the following:

Foundation Stage

In the Foundation Stage Geography is covered through '**People, Culture and Communities**' and '**Natural World**' strands set out in the updated National Curriculum for the EYFS. The geographical aspects focus on children making comments on the environment they are in, similarities and differences in relation to places in the world and talking about features of their own environment. Geography in the Foundation Stage is planned through topic work on a termly cycle using creative and engaging resources.

Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2

Location Knowledge

- Name and locate continents and oceans.
- Identify and describe areas with similar environments.
- Locate main countries and identify key physical and human characteristics.
- Understand key topographical features with changes over time.

Place Knowledge

- Understand similarities and differences within the UK, Europe and world-wide.

Human and Physical Geography

- Identify weather patterns.
- Develop key vocabulary.
- Understand types of settlement and land use including trade links and the distribution of resources.
- Explore fair/ unfair trade.

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Interpret a range of sources of geographical information including maps, atlases, globe and digital / computer mapping and technologies.
- Use the eight points of a compass, four and six figure grid references, symbols and key to build and extend their knowledge of the UK and wider world.
- Use fieldwork to observe measure and record both human and physical features.

Planning

Long term planning follows the National Curriculum 2014 for Geography. Cross curricular links and links to an overarching Topic are made where possible. The planning and implementation is the responsibility of all teaching staff. Individual Action Plans will contribute to the School Improvement Plan.

Medium term planning makes specific reference to the area of Geography:

- Location Knowledge
- Place Knowledge
- Human and Physical Geography
- Geographical skills and Fieldwork

Short term planning draws on the learning objectives and outcomes of the medium term plan, separating them into weekly and daily foci.

Teaching and Learning

Teaching at all levels should include a variety of teaching styles making the lessons suitable and accessible to all children, regardless of ability. Through these methods the children will have the opportunity to:

- We teach geography in a variety of creative ways including artwork, design and technology, through topic, literature, orienteering, fieldwork and Forest School sessions. We offer residentials, outdoor and practical learning, Pen Pals, international links, nature and local area walks, travel journals, role-play and real-life Geographical experiences.
- Access extensive outdoor learning opportunities to embed and further develop Geographical objectives using practical, outdoor methods.
- Work in group, individual and whole class activities.
- Experience teacher led presentations including factual and fictional representations and use of audio - visual equipment.
- Lead their own discussions and debates, presenting their own knowledge and experiences in groups of varying sizes.

- Research information using a variety of sources, oral, written and pictorial, using a range of resources e.g. fieldwork, map work, Computing.
- Record and analyse information in a variety of ways using appropriate geographical vocabulary.
- Gain first hand experiences of geographical issues by visiting various locations and using a variety of field work and mapping skills.
- Listen to visiting speakers, using expertise and knowledge from within and outside the school.
- Enhancing a child's self-esteem by promoting success in achievement and enjoyment in learning.

Geographical definition

Welbeck Primary uses the following whole school definition to describe Geography which is shared with children in Key Stages 1 and 2.

Geography is learning about the world, it's people and its processes.

Geographical Symbols

The teaching and learning of Geography is organised and structured through the use of symbols which identify the specific areas of Geography being taught. These are shared with children at the start of every lesson and are featured below.



Locational Knowledge



Place Knowledge



Human and Physical Geography



Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Geography Co-ordinator is responsible for termly monitoring of planning and teaching to ensure coverage and progression. Good practice is ensured through lesson observations, work analysis, staff meetings and training.

Assessment opportunities

Assessment in Geography follows the School's Assessment Policy.

- Assessment is a continuous process which both reinforces teacher/pupil planning and provides clear information for others.
- Assessment is used throughout every lesson to challenge pupils and ensure progress.
- Assessment should point a way forward and show what has been achieved.
- Reporting to parents will follow school guidance and procedures and address the end of Key Stage Descriptions.

Resources

Geography resources are mainly kept in the Pod and the central resource base. The school library holds a range of books and staff also have access to the Education Library Service. The local and wider environments are also regarded as a great resource and should be utilised wherever possible. Each classroom has a globe and a world map on display.

An inventory of resources for Geography has been reviewed and updated by the Geography coordinator.