



Picknalls First School

Geography Curriculum Statement 2024-2025



Intent

At Picknalls First School our whole curriculum is driven by a commitment to fostering creativity, critical thinking, and a love for lifelong learning. We aim to provide a well-rounded education that nurtures each child's unique talents and prepares them for future challenges. We will teach children at Picknalls to have or be:

Skillful - At Picknalls First School we want all children to be skilful, turning new and imaginative ideas into reality through self-expression and a curiosity for learning. Children are encouraged to think creatively in all that they do and explore new ways of solving problems and answering questions.

Teamwork - At Picknalls First School we want all children to value and respect all members of the community. Children at Picknalls will be taught the skills for life to empower them to be good citizens and to contribute to the community.

Aspiration - At Picknalls First School we want all children to aspire towards greatness. To be productive, aim high and succeed. Expanding their knowledge of the world by nurturing their interests as well as encouraging fearlessness of things that are new or unknown by creating exciting, inspiring opportunities.

Resilient - At Picknalls First School we want all children to have the mental and physical resilience to be successful and happy and be confident in tackling all obstacles that come their way.

Through these curriculum drivers we will encourage ALL children at Picknalls to become the stars of the future and shine bright in our community!

Intent

The **intent** of our geography curriculum is to ignite students' curiosity about the world around them, fostering a sense of wonder and a deep understanding of diverse environments, places, and cultures. We aim to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to become informed, responsible global citizens. Our curriculum is designed to achieve the following:

1. **Knowledge and Understanding:** Provide students with a solid foundation in geographical knowledge, including key physical and human processes, major global features, and the interaction between people and environments. This includes understanding the local area, the United Kingdom, and the wider world.
2. **Geographical Skills:** Develop essential geographical skills such as map reading, data collection, and analysis. Encourage the use of various resources, including atlases, digital mapping tools, and fieldwork, to explore and understand geographical concepts.
3. **Critical Thinking and Inquiry:** Cultivate critical thinking and inquiry skills by encouraging students to ask questions, investigate issues, and evaluate information from multiple sources. Promote problem-solving and decision-making skills in geographical contexts.
4. **Cultural Awareness and Diversity:** Foster an appreciation for cultural diversity and the richness of different societies. Highlight the importance of understanding and respecting different ways of life and perspectives, contributing to a more inclusive and empathetic worldview.
5. **Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship:** Instill a sense of responsibility for the environment and promote sustainable practices. Educate students about the impact of human activities on the planet and the importance of conserving natural resources for future generations.
6. **Personal and Social Development:** Support students' personal and social development by encouraging teamwork, collaboration, and communication. Use geography as a means to develop interpersonal skills and a sense of community.

Through a well-structured, engaging, and dynamic geography curriculum, we aim to inspire a lifelong interest in the world and its complexities, preparing students to navigate and contribute positively to an interconnected and ever-changing global society.

Implementation

Our geography curriculum is delivered through a combination of thematic units, hands-on activities, and experiential learning opportunities. Each unit is carefully designed to build on prior knowledge and progressively develop students' geographical understanding and skills.

Teachers utilize a variety of instructional strategies, including direct teaching, collaborative projects, and inquiry-based learning, to engage students and cater to different learning styles. **High-quality** resources such as maps, globes, atlases, and digital tools are employed to enhance learning and provide practical experiences. Field trips and outdoor learning experiences are integral to our approach, allowing students to observe and investigate geographical phenomena first-hand.

Assessment is continuous and varied, encompassing formative assessments such as quizzes, observations, and class discussions, as well as summative assessments like projects and written assignments. This ensures a comprehensive evaluation of students' progress and understanding.

Professional development for teachers is prioritized to ensure they are well-equipped with the latest geographical knowledge and teaching strategies. Regular collaboration and planning meetings enable teachers to share best practices and resources, fostering a cohesive and dynamic teaching environment. We aim to deliver a robust geography curriculum that not only imparts essential knowledge and skills but also inspires a lasting **curiosity** and **respect** for the world in our students.





Impact

The geography curriculum has a **profound and lasting impact** on students, shaping their understanding of the world and their place within it. By engaging with diverse geographical concepts, students develop a strong foundation of knowledge about **physical and human** environments, which enhances their **global awareness** and **cultural sensitivity**. This curriculum fosters **critical thinking and problem-solving** skills as students explore and analyse geographical data, enabling them to make informed decisions about **environmental and societal** issues. The emphasis on **sustainability and environmental** stewardship instils a sense of responsibility and empowers students to act as informed advocates for sustainable practices. Through hands-on activities and **fieldwork**, students gain practical skills and firsthand experiences that deepen their learning and retention. Furthermore, the curriculum supports personal and social development by promoting teamwork, communication, and respect for diverse perspectives. As a result, students emerge as **knowledgeable, responsible, and empathetic individuals**, prepared to navigate and contribute positively to an interconnected and dynamic global society. The cumulative effect of the geography curriculum is the cultivation of **well-rounded, inquisitive learners** with a lifelong interest in the world around them.

Cultural Capital in Geography

The geography curriculum plays a vital role in building students' cultural capital, equipping them with the **knowledge, skills, and experiences** that enrich their understanding of the world and enhance their ability to succeed in life. Through the exploration of diverse landscapes, cultures, and communities, students gain a broader perspective on global interconnections and **cultural diversity**. This curriculum introduces students to significant geographical concepts, historical events, and contemporary issues, fostering an appreciation for different ways of life and **global citizenship**. By learning about various traditions, languages, and practices, students develop empathy and **respect** for others, **breaking down prejudices and fostering inclusivity**. Field trips, guest speakers, and the use of multimedia resources further enhance their experiences, making learning tangible and relevant. Additionally, the development of geographical skills such as map reading, critical thinking, and data analysis contributes to their intellectual toolkit, enabling them to engage with the world confidently and competently. Overall, the geography curriculum **enriches students' cultural capital** by broadening their horizons, promoting lifelong learning, and preparing them to navigate and thrive in a diverse and interconnected world.

Geography Action Plan 2024 2025

-  To embed the i2e ambitious 3-18 through Geography Curriculum.
-  To introduce the use of Digimaps.
-  To ensure resources available to children and staff fully meet the demands of our ambitious curriculum.
-  To deliver CPD to all staff on how to deliver high quality fieldwork.

Written by Angela Jones
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