

East Somerset Federation



Geography Policy

Approved by the Governing Body of
The East Somerset Federation

Signed: *Susan Sise*

Date: September 2023

Date for Review: September 2025

Geography Intent

At the East Somerset Federation we aim to provide a high-quality geography curriculum which inspires curiosity in pupils and a lifelong fascination about the world and its people. Teaching will equip pupils with knowledge about diverse human and natural environments. As pupils progress through the federation, their growing knowledge about the world will help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes and of the formation and use of landscapes and environment. The curriculum will develop skills and vocabulary necessary to carry out effective geographical enquiry. Pupils will have a secure understanding of how the Earth has changed over time and recognise the issues concerning the environment currently, including sustainable development.

Aims and Objectives

During geography at East Somerset Federation, we aim:

- to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding laid down in the Geography curriculum to the maximum of their potential
- to have a clear understanding of their own surroundings through learning about their own locality, and the interaction between people and environment
- to extend their interest, knowledge and understanding of contrasting localities in Britain, Europe and the World
- to develop knowledge and understanding of the human and physical processes which shape places
- to appreciate similarities and differences in the world around them and to respect other people's beliefs, attitudes and values
- to develop geographical skills and vocabulary necessary to carry out effective geographical enquiry
- to formulate appropriate questions, develop research skills and evaluate material to inform opinions
- to develop interest and enjoyment of geographical experiences and build confidence and understanding
- to recognise and understand issues concerning the environment and sustainable development

Teaching and Learning

The expectation is that learning and teaching styles will differ from each lesson and will address the needs of both the children and subject. At the East Somerset Federation we utilise many learning and teaching styles. Geography will be taught mainly through topic/quest based lessons in line with our creative curriculum. As far as possible, geography should be biased towards practical lessons, with field work and outdoor learning playing a key part. Trips and visitors should also greatly enhance the geography curriculum.

Geography Curriculum Planning

Due to the cross curricular creative curriculum we have, geography will be planned within a topic/Quest. Planning takes place in either mixed year groups or a single year group and all the geography objectives are taken from the skills based curriculum. For most topics there are cross-curricular links where possible but for others, they may be taught more discretely.

Assessment and Recording

Formative assessment is the basis for assessment in geography.

Resources

Resources are held in the library/resources room, classrooms and shared resources website.

Inclusion and Differentiation

All children must have regular access to geography appropriate to their stage of development. Challenge for all is integral to our teaching and we aim to encourage all pupils to reach their full potential through the provision of varied opportunities. Work must be differentiated to aid children's learning. Also, more-able children should be given open-ended tasks and be given opportunities for further research and more challenging studies. We recognise that our curriculum planning must allow pupils to gain a progressively deeper understanding and competency as they move through our school.

Monitoring and Review

The monitoring of standards of work and the quality of geography teaching is the responsibility of the geography subject leader. The work of the subject leaders is significant in raising standards and this involves supporting colleagues in their teaching, being informed about current developments in their subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction in geography. Where possible, subject leaders have specially allocated time for carrying out the vital tasks of reviewing samples of work and visiting classes to observe teaching.

This policy will be reviewed biennially.