

Wrenthorpe Academy: Geography



Intent

At Wrenthorpe Academy we believe that Geography helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum at Wrenthorpe focuses on developing our children's knowledge and skills. This knowledge and skill can then be transferred to other curriculum areas and is used to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in the children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives. To promote the children's interest and understanding we look at diverse places and people and use a variety of resources within natural and human environments. The knowledge and skills that the children acquire are designed to be progressive as well as transferable and so will be used through a child's time at Wrenthorpe and in their further education.

Implementation

Geography at Wrenthorpe Academy is taught in blocks throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Teachers and senior leaders have identified the key knowledge and skills of each blocked topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they know already about a topic so that work can be planned to enhance this knowledge and understanding. This informs the program of study and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated within each lesson, as well as how learners will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion. Cross curricular outcomes in geography are specifically planned for, with strong links between geography and literacy identified, planned for and utilised. The local area is fully utilised to achieve the desired outcomes, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice.

Impact

Outcomes in topic books and discussions with children are evidence that a broad and balanced geography curriculum is in place and demonstrates the children's attainment of identified key knowledge. Children report that they thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to further develop their geographical knowledge of the world through the extra enhancements that the school organises. Each year our Arts Fortnight is linked to real learning with a focus on bringing Geography to life. For example our theme in 2019/2020 was Plastic Pollution and in 2020/2021 Climate Change. Children invite their parents to school to share their work and are proud of the learning which has been achieved.