

‘Shine like stars’ Philippians 2:15

All of our curriculum is designed so all children have the opportunity to grow and develop the gifts that God has given to them and to know their value and worth in His world.

Geography Vision Statement

Intent

At **Lowdham CofE Primary School**, we believe geography provokes and answers questions about the natural and human worlds. It is a focus within the curriculum for developing cultural awareness, understanding and resolving issues about the environment and recognising the importance of sustainable development. Through the geography taught at Lowdham CofE Primary, we seek to inspire children to think about their own place in the world, their values, and their rights and responsibilities to other people and the environment.

Implementation

Geography at Lowdham Primary follows the National Curriculum objectives and is taught in units throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. For each unit, teachers have identified the key knowledge, skills and vocabulary which will be covered. Units have been carefully planned using the **whole school geography progression map** to ensure children build on prior learning and make links between units. A short narrative of how each unit builds on prior learning is shown in the whole school geography overview.

As a school, we value the importance of developing children’s locational knowledge. Each class has a map area and uses this throughout the year to embed children’s locational knowledge. At KS1 and Year 3, locational knowledge is taught through the specific units. From Year 4 onwards, locational knowledge is the focus for a unit at the beginning of the year and then developed through the year. Throughout their time at Lowdham Primary, children build on their understanding of physical and human geography; this progression is evident in the whole school progression map.

Children at Lowdham Primary experience a wide range of fieldtrips to develop their geographical skills and fieldwork. Children use the digital mapping programme *digimaps* for schools to develop their map work skills and to engage them in map work. We use the teaching of geography to develop place knowledge and an awareness of diversity through carefully chosen contrasting localities for study. For example, we have links with a school in **Ghana** and as part of work in Year 5, children undertake a field trip to Leicester.

At Lowdham Primary, we endeavour to make links in learning across the National Curriculum subjects. Where possible, geography units are taught alongside high-quality texts. For example, in Year 3, when studying the Amazon, children will read *‘Where the forest meets the sea.’* By Jeanie Baker. This enables children to make connections both in their geographical learning and in the wider curriculum.

Impact

Through the geography curriculum at Lowdham Primary, children develop the geographical knowledge and skills to help them explore, navigate and understand the world around them and their place in it. Children’s knowledge and skills develop progressively as they move through the school, not only to enable them to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum but to prepare them to become competent geographers in secondary education. The work in children’s topic books evidences the broad and balanced geography curriculum we deliver and demonstrates their acquisition of key knowledge and skills.