

# INGATESTONE INFANT SCHOOL

## GEOGRAPHY POLICY

Geography is the study of places, the human and physical processes which shape them, and the people who live in them. The pupils are helped to understand their surroundings and the wider world. Geography relates to many aspects of their own lives and the environment in which they live. Their interest and knowledge is extended beyond their local environment. It helps them to interpret images and information about people and places, which they acquire from different sources.

### AIMS

- To stimulate the children's interest in their surroundings.
- To involve the children in the process of enquiry and to help them ask questions concerned with 'where', 'when', 'what', 'why' and 'how'?
- To develop the children's geographical skills focusing on map and field work.
- To develop the children's interest in places.
- To develop the children's knowledge and understanding about the location of physical and human features in their local environment and beyond.
- To develop an awareness of the cultural and economic diversity in the world and whilst doing this, increase the children's awareness and sensitivity towards the multi-ethnic society in which we live.
- To develop an understanding that the environment may be improved and sustained.

## **ACHIEVEMENT OF AIMS**

- The geography curriculum/topic work will operate within the framework established under the National Curriculum for KS1 children and in accordance with the Early Learning Goals for those in the Foundation Stage.
- The children will learn through first hand experience wherever possible, supported by the use of primary evidence such as photographs, artefacts, human resources and school visits.
- The children will be involved in an enquiry-based approach using structured investigations.
- Human, environmental and physical geography will not be studied in isolation but will be linked to places which the children are learning about.
- A stereotypical view of people or places will not take place within the school.
- Every opportunity will be taken for cross-curricular work.
- Geography topics will be blocked to ensure children gain a deeper understanding.

## **CURRICULUM CONTENT AND DELIVERY**

At Ingatestone Infant School, geography is taught cross-curricular wherever possible, and links are made to topics throughout the year. Geography learning is related to educational visits, stories and seasonal-based activities.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, geography work is planned in accordance with the 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World' early learning goals.

In Key Stage One, geography work is planned in accordance with the National Curriculum Programmes of Study. Work is taught in blocks and there is a two year rolling curriculum.

## **PROGRESSION AND ASSESSMENT**

The curriculum is planned to ensure breath, depth and relevance, and enables progression throughout Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2. This planned sequence of work is further differentiated within the classroom to allow access for all children.

Assessment opportunities must be integral to geographical teaching and a variety of strategies are used by all members of staff to assess the children's progress:

- Ongoing and specific observations.
- Questioning and listening to the children.
- Marking work produced, in accordance with the school's marking policy.
- Organising specific assessment activities when necessary.
- Giving pupils the opportunity to 'self assess'.