

Geography Curriculum Statement

INTENT

At Dixons Silver Springs Academy, we believe geography is essential in helping children understand the world, their place within it and their responsibilities as global citizens. In an increasingly diverse and interconnected society, geography enables children to develop respect, empathy and understanding for different people, cultures, environments and ways of life.

Our geography curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity and fascination about the world and its people while developing children's knowledge of both human and physical geography. Through rich enquiry-based learning, children investigate significant places, environments and issues at local, national and global scales. Children are encouraged to ask questions, think critically, analyse evidence and communicate informed viewpoints.

The curriculum supports children to develop a strong sense of identity and belonging, beginning with their local area of Stalybridge and Greater Manchester before extending to the wider United Kingdom and the world beyond. Geography at Dixons Silver Springs Academy promotes children's intellectual, social, emotional and cultural development and makes meaningful links with subjects including English, mathematics, science, history, Religious Education and PSHE.

We are committed to ensuring that children understand current geographical issues, including climate change, sustainability, environmental responsibility, migration and global inequality. Through this, children develop the knowledge and skills needed to become informed, responsible and active citizens who can positively contribute to the future of the planet.

IMPLEMENTATION

At Silver Springs Academy, geography is taught through a carefully sequenced and progressive curriculum which builds knowledge, vocabulary and disciplinary skills over time. Learning is designed to revisit and deepen prior understanding, enabling children to make connections across topics and year groups.

Our curriculum is structured around key geographical concepts including place, space, scale, interconnection, human and physical processes, and environmental change. Through high-quality teaching and purposeful enquiry questions, children learn to think and work as geographers by:

- asking and answering geographical questions
- interpreting maps, atlases, globes and digital technologies
- collecting and analysing data

- conducting fieldwork investigations
- evaluating evidence and drawing conclusions
- communicating findings using appropriate geographical vocabulary.

Children begin by exploring their immediate environment and local community before developing a broader understanding of regions, countries and continents across the world. Fieldwork and first-hand experiences are central to our curriculum and, where possible, are enhanced through visits to locations such as parks, coastlines, airports, zoos, castles and other places of geographical interest.

We ensure that all children have access to an ambitious and inclusive geography curriculum that reflects the diversity of our world and promotes high aspirations for every learner. Opportunities are provided for collaborative learning, discussion and problem-solving so that children can apply their geographical understanding to real-world issues.

IMPACT

By the time children leave Silver Springs Academy, they will have developed a secure and progressive body of geographical knowledge and skills, alongside a genuine curiosity about the world around them. Children will be able to think critically, ask informed questions and understand the relationships between people, places and environments at a range of scales.

Children will leave primary school equipped with the geographical vocabulary, map skills, fieldwork experience and analytical thinking needed for the next stage of their education. They will understand the importance of sustainability and environmental stewardship and recognise how their own actions can influence the wider world.

Ultimately, our geography curriculum aims to nurture respectful, informed and responsible citizens who appreciate diversity, value the planet and are prepared to contribute positively to an ever-changing world.