



Geography

Statement of Intent

“Geography is a living, breathing subject, constantly adapting itself to change. It is dynamic and relevant. For me geography is a great adventure with purpose. Geography is a subject which holds the key to our future’ (Michael Palin).

Our geography curriculum is designed to develop children’s curiosity and fascination about the world and that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Children gain the knowledge and skills needed to confront and solve problems that the future may present. We want to equip children with the information needed as citizens of our planet and empower them in shaping their place within the world.

Geography at Ralph Butterfield Primary School has a wide application to everyday life, teaching the children to enjoy learning about the world and to have a better understanding of different locations.

The aims of teaching geography in our school are for children to:

- gain an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like, both in Britain and the wider world
- have comprehensive understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected
- develop an extensive base of human and physical geographical knowledge and vocabulary
- engage in geographical enquiry and apply questioning skills, as well as effective presentation techniques
- develop fieldwork skills as well as other geographical aptitudes and techniques
- be able to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current issues in society and the environment
- create genuine interest in the subject and a real sense of curiosity about the world and its people

We want our children to thoroughly enjoy learning about geography, encouraging them to undertake new life experiences now and in the future.

What this looks like for children at Ralph Butterfield Primary School

- Geography is usually taught through topics which are often interconnected with other curriculum areas, including class reading texts engaging children through a variety of cross curricular opportunities and experiences.
- Geography is exciting, from children exploring through map making in our EYFS classes, producing balloon globes in our KS1 classes and the most wonderful 3D river constructions in KS2.
- Geography will develop long-term memory by allowing for repetition and links to be made as part of topics as well as knowledge recall through our geography progression. Children remember more, know more and can do more.
- Geography allows for exploration through experience. Children engage in using atlases, online maps and resources as well as being in the field. Fieldwork begins with our youngest children exploring the local area of Haxby at the simplest level, with other year groups building on these first foundations.
- Geography gives us a sense of who we are at Ralph Butterfield Primary School. We are committed to providing children with opportunities to investigate and make enquiries about their local area of Haxby and York so that they can develop of real sense their heritage and what makes our local area unique and special.
- Through high quality teaching and learning, we develop the essential characteristics of geographers understanding their role as citizens of our planet. We want the children to develop the curiosity to formulate questions about the world around them and the knowledge to be able to answer them.