

Geography at South Bersted

What is Geography at South Bersted CE Primary?

Learners are encouraged to achieve highly and to embrace lifelong learning, underpinned by Christian values. We study human and physical geography in order to understand our lives and those of others in similar or different communities. Understanding other cultures helps learners to become caring and responsible 21st century global citizens.

By learning about the geography of our locality and the wider world, learners can understand how lives and settlements can be affected by the environment and how humankind has affected and continues to affect the environment. Learners will study global events and learn to relate them to events and changes in their lives and locality.

By the end of each Key Stage every child will have had the opportunity to:

Handle and interpret maps, globes and satellite images.

Visit sites in the school, our locality and further a field. Gain 1st hand experience of travelling on different modes of transport. Ask and answer questions about contrasting and similar localities. Study maps over time and see how land use has changed. Know and recognise the location of the continents and oceans of our world. Develop knowledge of major cities and physical features of different continents. Compare and contrast localities. Know that life is different for people in other centuries depending on economic and geographical factors. Have an awareness of the differences between modern communities and transport links and those of biblical times.

How is the Geography curriculum taught?

Through cross curricular teaching, learners are encouraged to work both collaboratively and independently to discover geographical knowledge and geographical resources will be used from EYFS to KS1 and KS2 in order to learn about the past and begin to use inference skills to interpret them.

Learners will revisit and deepen their understanding of physical features throughout their journey from EYFS to Year Six. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius is studied a historical event in Year 3, whilst the features of natural disasters are studied in Year 4. Local walks and field studies occur in all key stages and this spiral plan enables learners to re-examine ideas and draw conclusions based on a deeper, consolidated knowledge and understanding. In addition, it allows teachers to address misconceptions and further embed learning.

Events and visits to support learning

Geography topics begin with an immersive 'Stunning Start', end with a 'Fabulous Finish' and include cross curricular days to engage learners and aid understanding of different lifestyles around the world. They introduce or sum-up and celebrate pupils' learning.

Lessons are practical and engaging, enabling learners to see, feel and model physical and human geography. Events include: simulating a tsunami in a tray of water; making the water cycle in a plastic bag; building contoured models; visiting rivers, the coast and parks in different locations on the south coast; conducting street surveys and mapping land use in different locations within contrasting towns. All of which are valuable ways to help learners visualise physical and human features as well as having a better understanding of natural disasters. Learners will experience Topic Days where they are able to make and taste foods from different localities as well as discussing and promoting Fair Trade.

What do we learn?

Learners will gain locational knowledge by using maps, atlases, globes, satellite images and search engines to identify countries, continents and the physical features of our world. They will begin their journey interpreting and creating maps of their classroom and the school grounds, and will continue to develop mapping skills as they progress through the school. Learners will deepen their knowledge, skills and understanding of human geography throughout EYFS, KS1 and KS2 by comparing and contrasting localities within the UK, Europe and the wider world.

