



ST BERNARD'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

GEOGRAPHY POLICY

LENT 2018

St Bernard's Preparatory School

GEOGRAPHY POLICY

Mission Statement

With God as our shelter and Christ as our guide, the mission of St Bernard's Preparatory School is to educate towards love and service to God, each other and the wider community. Through our broad balanced curriculum we will develop an understanding of each faith and the values we share. We will treat each person with respect, knowing we are special and unique.

St Bernard's is part of the St Benedict's family of schools. All schools in the group share a similar Catholic and Benedictine/Bernardine ethos.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Geography is the exploration and understanding of the children's surroundings and the world in which they live. This policy outlines the nature, purpose and management of geography in our school.
- 1.2 St Bernard's Preparatory School's Geography Policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the teaching staff.
- 1.3 It is the responsibility of all the staff under the guidance of the head teacher and the co-ordinator to implement this policy.

2. AIMS

- 2.1 Geography is about developing an understanding of our world. Our aims at St. Bernard's are that in geography all children will:
 - improve their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
 - enjoy studying the world around them
 - develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places, including defining physical and human characteristics
 - develop an awareness of the environment and the possibilities of protecting and managing it
 - become competent in the geographical skills needed to:
 - collect, analyse and communicate with a wide range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes
 - interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including map, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
 - communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

3. ENTITLEMENT

- 3.1 Children are entitled to receive, with a suitable peer group, a relevant Geography curriculum.
 - 3.2 Children will usually be taught in their normal class group.
- See the Curriculum Policy for subject time allocations.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Geography is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. The teaching of Geography at KS1 and KS2 ensures that Geographical enquiry and skills are used when developing knowledge and understanding of places, patterns, processes, environmental change and sustainable development.

- 4.2 Children will follow units of work from the New National Curriculum, and these will be stated in the school's long term plans, however these may be supplemented according to the termly creative curriculum themes within the school. Specific issues within Geography related to under 5's – reference to Foundation Stage Curriculum.
- 4.3 Teachers at KS1 and KS2 are responsible for planning their own Geography
- 4.4 Homework is given at KS2 once a week to support geography learning.
- 4.5 Links between geography and other curriculum areas are used where possible.
- 4.6 Wherever possible children are offered opportunities for direct and practical experience.
- 4.7 Pupils enjoy school visits which include elements of the geography curriculum at times. All activities comply with the guidelines in the School Visits Policy.

5. REPORTING

- 5.1 Parents receive a written report of the child's progress once a year and an interim teacher assessment at KS1 and KS2.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 6.1 All pupils will have equal opportunities to reach their full potential across the geography curriculum, regardless of their ability, gender, or cultural background.
- 6.2 In our studies of localities therefore, equal emphasis is given to the roles of both men and women at all levels of society.
In our study of distant localities, we focus on the lives of real people and families in order to avoid stereotyping.
In our study of distant places, we must ensure that we develop children's appreciation of the lifestyles of people of all cultures.

7. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL OR ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

- 7.1 Pupils with special educational or additional educational needs are offered the same curriculum, and provision through differentiation will be made where this affects their ability to participate in Geography lessons.

8. RESOURCES

- 8.1 Resources will be stored with the class teacher.
- 8.2 Resources will be regularly reviewed to ensure that materials are up to date.

Applies to:

Whole School including Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

Related policies:

Curriculum, Safeguarding Portfolio, Health and Safety.

Availability

This Policy is available to parents on the website www.stbernardsprep.org or a copy can be requested from the school office.

Monitoring and Review

The Governors will undertake a formal bi-annual review of this policy for the purpose of monitoring the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

Signed by _____

Headmaster _____

Date _____

Chair of Governors _____

Date _____