



Biscovey Nursery and Infants' Academy

Teaching and Learning Principles

Subject: Geography

'With strong roots we learn and grow together'

School Vision:

At Biscovey Nursery and Infants' Academy we aim to ensure that all children can develop the skills they need to become happy and confident learners who, with guidance and support, can reach their full potential.

Our curriculum ensures that we deliver a range of topics across the age phases which develops sequential learning where pupils know more and can do more, ensuring that they are ready for their next stage in education.

Our nurturing ethos endeavours to support all children and their families. Through this approach we are able to work together to ensure that we meet the needs of all learners in our school.

We pride ourselves on delivering beyond the academic curriculum, developing a child's individual character. Our core values run through all areas of school life and learning which allows the whole child to develop into a confident and caring young individual. The Biscovey child shows respect, and through self-belief and courage approaches learning with an inquisitive mind.

'With strong roots we learn and grow together'

Subject Intent:

Geographers at Biscovey Nursery and Infants establish strong roots in key geographical concepts through engaging, cross-curricular and fully immersive learning experiences. Lessons are designed to motivate and inspire through topics which reflect our pupils' interests; whilst immersing them in cultures and places to ensure they understand their place locally, nationally and globally. Our curriculum is designed to provoke discussions, promote curiosity and advance pupils' locational knowledge and skills as a result.

Our pupils are consistently enhancing their cultural capital through trips, visits and key experiences. As a result, our pupils can celebrate their uniqueness as part of a richly diverse and global society.

By weaving reading and writing throughout our curriculum, we introduce and develop high-levels of topic-specific vocabulary. This enables our pupils to engage confidently with ambitious geographical concepts and ideas. We recognise that the acquisition of language is vital to children's learning and understanding. Geography introduces a lot of words that are unfamiliar or not in everyday use, so it's important to explicitly teach vocabulary. SEND are pre taught vocabulary where necessary.

We are committed to providing access to a first-class education for all pupils, which is highly ambitious for those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and other vulnerable groups. All pupils are entitled to have access to a broad, balanced, and relevant curriculum, which is scaffolded and differentiated to meet individual needs. Pupils are supported to keep up, not catch up. Biscovey Nursery and Infants staff recognise and are committed to fulfilling their responsibility to ensure that every pupil has an equal opportunity to attain good outcomes in their learning, progress and personal development.

Subject Implementation:

Fundamental to the teaching of geography at Biscovey Nursery and Infants is the progression of skills and knowledge as children progress through the school. Teachers are given a Progression of Skills document which allows them to see a breakdown of the skills for each year group. Teaching is delivered through topics, driven by a high-quality text and relevant and immersive cross-curricular links. Our curriculum focusses on ensuring children's understanding of the world is constantly grown and challenged.

We will use learning walks as an opportunity to ensure consistency in the quality of teaching and identify strengths within the school. This will provide opportunities for professional development and peer to peer support where teachers can observe each other and share good practice.

Central to the teaching of geography is the enhancement of the curriculum through trips and visits. We will plan visits, visitors and activities within the community to provide first-hand experiences for the children to support and develop their learning. These opportunities provide a contextual understanding of geography - both within the immediate vicinity of the school and around Cornwall. Staff will be made aware of opportunities which match their curriculum objectives and which give pupils the chance to explore their local area. The promotion of a language-rich geography curriculum is essential to the successful acquisition of knowledge and understanding in geography. The promotion and use of an accurate and rich geographical vocabulary throughout the school is planned for each topic.

Subject Impact:

Through our teaching of an engaging, immersive and linked geography curriculum, we want to foster a culture where children love geography. We want to build within them a curiosity about people and places that will enrich their understanding of the world around them, both within the school, and in their everyday lives. They will gain a rich and varied knowledge of the world, allowing them to confidently explore without limits. This impact will be measured through pupil voice and learning walks. We will see pupils who are able to speak confidently and articulately about the natural world as well as humans' role within it. The teaching of geography will be of a consistently high standard. Lessons will be exciting and pupil voice interviews will demonstrate that pupils are engaged with the subject. Children across the school will be empowered and will understand the contributions they can make to both the local and global community. Topic-specific writing will offer pupils a chance to showcase their learning, with a specific focus on high-quality and subject-specific vocabulary for all of our pupils.