

Geography at Mansbridge

Although the school must teach the national curriculum, it is about how we interpret this curriculum and what we give priority to. Geography at Mansbridge is not just the study of places and people. It is about inspiring a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will stay with children for the rest of their lives.

We all live our lives geographically. Planet Earth is our home. It is awesome, diverse, inspiring and ever changing. Through geography teaching at Mansbridge, we aim to invite children to participate in the excitement, enjoyment and challenge of this dynamic world. Throughout the school we build on personal experience and make use of the area around us to help children better understand the places we live in, why they matter and how they are connected to a globalised world.

Geography at Mansbridge aims to equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

Our teaching of Geography explores physical, cultural, economic and political spheres to illuminate key issues for the present and the future. For us it is a vital resource in educating our children and preparing them for life as a 21st century global citizen. It allows us to enable our children to face the questions of what it means to live sustainably in an interdependent world.

Key to our vision of Geography is a solid foundation of map work throughout the school which teaches children to interpret a range of sources of Geographical Information such as aerial images, street maps, world maps, visual images, online maps such as Google Earth, Digi maps and other GIS.

These skills are then applied through Geographical enquiry with many opportunities for fieldwork being offered through our Geography curriculum. We believe this encourages questioning, investigation and critical thinking and gives children the chance to be 'geographers' in the real world.

Planning

- Yearly overview
- Half termly overview

Unit plans (broken into skills and lessons)

Teaching

Teaching of geography incorporates location knowledge, place knowledge, human and physical geography and geographical skills and fieldwork.

Class teachers undertake planning and teaching of geography following the subject progression and often with support from the subject leader. Geography is taught as a discrete subject. Where possible, elements of this form a topic i.e., the water cycle or Volcanoes. However, we are mindful that much of the Geography curriculum is 'knowledge' i.e., location knowledge that doesn't fit into a topic and we are careful to ensure that this is given as much credence as that content that fits neatly into a topic; We use a passport system to track children's learning of the countries of the world (location knowledge).

Our geography progression ensures that the knowledge and skills are carefully planned and sequenced to build upon previous learning.

Measuring impact / assessment

- Beginning to work on assessment tasks and EKASO for Geography – aiming to use a variety of assessment tasks throughout each unit such as multiple choice, explanations and application tasks to assess children's knowledge and understanding.