

TOLL BAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

GEOGRAPHY POLICY

Introduction

This policy outlines the teaching, organisation and management of geography taught and learnt at Toll Bar primary School.

The policy has been drawn up as a result of staff discussion and has the full agreement of the Governing Body. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff. The responsibility for monitoring and review rests with the geography co-ordinator.

Our Aims

Through our teaching of geography we aim to:

- stimulate pupils' interest in and curiosity about their surroundings
- increase their knowledge and understanding of the changing world
- encourage pupils to ask questions and propose solutions to environmental problems
- develop pupils' competence in specific geographical skills
- foster a sense of responsibility for the earth and its resources

Through Geography we can also:

- Improve pupils' skills in literacy, numeracy, ICT and other cross curricular areas
- Develop pupils' thinking skills
- Promote pupils' awareness and understanding of gender, cultural, spiritual and moral issues
- Develop pupils as active citizens

Entitlement

Geography is a foundation subject in the 2014 Curriculum. The fundamental knowledge, skills and understanding of the subject are set out in the Curriculum programmes of study.

All pupils are entitled to access the geography curriculum at a level appropriate to their needs arising from race, gender, ability or disability. Fieldwork may have to be adapted to individual requirements.

Equal Opportunities

In line with our **Single Equality Policy/Equal Opportunities Policy** we are committed to providing a teaching environment conducive to learning. Each child is valued, respected and challenged regardless of race, gender, religion, social background, culture or disability.

Strategies for the teaching of geography

Learning and Teaching in geography will be in line with the school's **Teaching and Learning Policy**, where provision is made for all learning styles.

1. Most of the geography curriculum is taught through our skills based curriculum- see Geography skills levels.

2. The mode of working in geography is a mix of class teaching, cooperative groups and individual work.

a) Groups are usually of mixed ability and are encouraged to communicate their findings in a variety of ways.

b) Fieldwork is a purposeful and integral part of the curriculum.

3. We also teach through geography through our topic based curriculum.

4. Annually we undertake a themed week , where the whole school investigate an area of the world at varying levels, we look at the geography, art, culture music, food etc. Each class then feeds back their work to the whole school at the end of the week.

When teaching geography we:

- Always explain what we want pupils to know, understand and be able to do through the geography they are about to do
- Often use a key question to direct pupils' thinking / enquiry
- Vary the resources and activities to ensure each pupil can learn effectively
- Use starters and plenaries to ensure students fully understand what they are learning, how they learn and how well they are progressing

The role of the geography co-ordinator is to:

1. Support colleagues in teaching the subject content and developing the detail within each topic.

2. Renew, update and complement resources needed to deliver the curriculum, within budget restraints.

3. Audit current practice.

4. Develop assessment and record keeping to ensure progression and continuity.- using the levelled geography key skills.

5. Keep abreast of developments in geography education and media usage.

6. Writes an action plan for their subject and evaluates.

7. Writes an annual report for Governors and discusses this subject with governors.

Resources

Most resources are kept in the topic boxes in the resource room, there is an ICT suite, ipads, set of encyclopaedias, globes and wall maps.

Health and Safety

This needs to be read alongside our ***Health and Safety Policy***

Monitoring and Evaluation

To monitor and evaluate geography the subject leader:

- Supports teachers via co-planning, team teaching, observing / giving feedback
- Monitors teachers' medium term planning
- Reviews resource provision
- Works co-operatively with the SENCo
- Discusses regularly with the headteacher and governor, the progress with implementing this policy in the school

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if new legislation is received.

Date reviewed: ***January 2015***

Date of next review: ***January 2017***

Chair of Governors: