

**Geography**

**at Sharlston Community School**

**Intent**

At Sharlston Community School we are committed to providing all children with learning opportunities that will engage them in geography.  We aim to inspire pupils to become curious and explorative thinkers with a diverse knowledge of the world; in other words, to think like a geographer. We want pupils to develop the confidence to question and observe places, measure and record necessary data in various ways, and analyse and present their findings. We aim to build an awareness of how Geography shapes our lives at multiple scales and over time. A high-quality Geography curriculum should:

• Have a strong focus on developing both geographical skills and knowledge.

• Encourage critical thinking, with the ability to ask perceptive questions and explain and analyse evidence.

• Support the development of fieldwork skills across each year group.

• Foster a deep interest and develop a knowledge of pupils’ locality and how it differs from other areas of the world.

Our intent, at Sharlston Community School, is to offer a broad and balanced Geography curriculum, providing opportunities for our children to gain the essential knowledge, skills and understanding which will enable them to flourish and reach their full potential in life and SHINE! We have designed a bespoke curriculum, starting with where the children are in Sharlston and building on real experiences, interwoven with developing the key attributes embodied within our AT SHARLSTON WE SHINE message:

**S** how Respect -Respect ourselves, others, property and our surroundings

Intent: to develop confident, responsible and compassionate global citizens who demonstrate an appreciation of the world we live in. **As Geographers, develop an appreciation for how humans are impacted by and have evolved around the physical geography surrounding them and how humans have had an impact on the environment, both positive and negative.**

**H** ave ambition -Have high aspirations to succeed in life

Intent: to inspire pride, aspirations and high expectations of what can be achieved both during lesson and in the future, **and develop an awareness of the vast range of career opportunities available by studying Geography**

**I** nvolve every one -Enjoying being together, and celebrate differences

Intent: to develop kind, fair members of a multi-cultural society who can communicate effectively, celebrate diversity and uniqueness, tackle discrimination, challenge stereotypes and promote equity, **learning, in Geography, the similarities and differences between people and places in the world**

**N** ever give up -Be resilient and determined to do your very best

Intent: to develop resilient learners who persevere, take risks, are open to feedback, self-reflect and embrace challenge with a growth mindset. I**n Geography, learning about resilience from the stories of communities facing natural disasters and adventurers exploring the world**

**E** njoy learning –Engage with learning new things in and out of school

Intent: to provide rich learning experiences which develop language both within and beyond the classroom, linking and recapping prior learning and motivating and engaging learners. **Ensuring children’s Cultural Capital is developed by providing opportunities for children to learn about new places and ideas.**

**Implementation of the Geography Curriculum**

We believe that geography has an important place in our school curriculum. A two-year, long term rolling programme maps out the coverage of teaching and learning opportunities for children to develop and embed progressive skills that they are taught.   Our curriculum is designed and planned to show progression in skills from Early Years to Upper Key Stage 2.

At Sharlston Community School we want all of our children to reach key milestones at the end of each key stage in each of the Disciplinary Concepts to learn how to ‘be’ a Geographer’ and that underpin every geography topic that we teach.

• Locational knowledge

• Place knowledge

• Human and physical geography

• Geographical skills and fieldwork

We have a spiral curriculum, with essential knowledge and skills revisited with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revise and build on their previous learning. Locational knowledge, in particular, will be reviewed in each unit to coincide with our belief that this will consolidate children’s understanding of key concepts, such as scale and place, in Geography. Cross-curricular links are included throughout each unit, allowing children to make connections and apply their Geography skills to other areas of learning.

Enquiry questions form the basis for our units, meaning that pupils gain a solid understanding of geographical knowledge and skills by applying them to answer enquiry questions. These questions are open-ended with no preconceived answers and therefore they are genuinely purposeful and engage pupils in generating a real change. In attempting to answer them, children learn how to collect, interpret and present data using geographical methodologies and make informed decisions by applying their geographical knowledge. Each unit contains elements of geographical skills and fieldwork to ensure that fieldwork skills are practised as often as possible

**Impact**

After following our carefully designed SHINE Curriculum, the impact is that by the time pupils leave Sharlston Community School they have a secure understanding of the academic content of our Geography Curriculum; with the understanding of how to be socially, morally, spiritually and culturally responsible and aware; how to make positive contributions to the local and global community and how to endeavour to be the best that they can be. They understand the vast range of career opportunities open to them if they work hard. We aim for all of our children to leave our school respectful, skilful, ambitious and with a thirst for life and all it has to offer.

**We hope to encourage pupils to become resourceful, active citizens who will have the skills to contribute to and improve the world around them.**