

## Geography

### Intent

At Wygate Park Academy, our geography curriculum is fully inclusive and accessible to every child. Geography is an investigative and exploratory subject, and our aim is to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum while offering a broad, balanced, ambitious, and well-sequenced programme of learning.

We want children to develop a genuine love of geography and a deep understanding of the world around them. Through engaging lessons, we encourage pupils to ask and answer thoughtful questions about both the natural and human aspects of the world. Our creative learning environment and purposeful classroom displays help spark curiosity and promote active learning.

Our geography curriculum provides children with knowledge and skills that can be transferred across the wider curriculum and support their spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development. We aim to inspire a lasting sense of wonder about the world, its people, diverse places, and environments, as well as key physical and human processes.

### Implementation

Our curriculum is designed as a spiral model, allowing children to build on prior learning year after year. This structure helps them embed core concepts and retain important “sticky knowledge” throughout their time at Wygate Park Academy.

Geography is mainly taught in dedicated blocks across the year, enabling pupils to explore topics in depth. In some history units, geographical knowledge and skills are woven in where helpful links naturally occur. Teachers plan carefully to ensure clear progression in knowledge and skills, and all learners are supported in line with our inclusion policy. Opportunities for cross-curricular links are also explored to further strengthen learning.

Each unit begins with an overarching enquiry question, with each lesson contributing to answering this question. Retrieval practice is built into every lesson to reinforce prior learning and help children make meaningful connections. Throughout every topic, we embed geographical skills, substantive and disciplinary knowledge, and core concepts.

Vocabulary is central to our approach. Subject-specific vocabulary is modelled by teachers, displayed clearly in classrooms, and used regularly by pupils in lessons and across the curriculum.

We are committed to giving children real opportunities to investigate their local area of Spalding and Lincolnshire, helping them develop a sense of identity, heritage, and place. Fieldwork is a key part of geography lessons, and we make use of our local environment as well as visits further afield during geography units and Heritage Week.

### Impact

We measure the impact of our geography curriculum in a range of ways:

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- Assessing children's understanding of key vocabulary before and after each unit
- Capturing images and videos of practical learning
- Book looks
- Pupil and staff voice
- Weekly retrieval activities
- Snapshot reviews to support staff and check progress
- Informal learning walks by the subject leader

Our well-planned geography curriculum ensures clear progression in knowledge, skills, and vocabulary. We foster an investigative, enquiry-based approach that helps children build a meaningful and coherent understanding of each unit taught throughout the school.

By the end of their time at Wygate Park Academy, pupils will:

- Have a secure and growing understanding of the world and their place within it
- Use a broad and appropriate geographical vocabulary
- Be inspired to continue exploring the world through reading, travel, and media
- Feel confident using their voice to express ideas and opinions
- Demonstrate strong geographical skills, including map reading, enquiry, evaluation, creativity, and problem-solving