

DEEP DIVE:

Curriculum area: Geography



'Excellence Every day'



INTRODUCTION

Our curriculum is at the heart of our educational provision, offering a broad and exciting daily offer to ignite a love of learning in all of our pupils.

Our vision is focused on ambition, aspiration and progression and this is delivered through our curriculum model.

All of our pupils have the opportunity to experience hands-on learning and experiences which enrich their classroom activities. This may be through trips, external visitors to the schools or virtual experiences as well as workshops. Our aim is to close the gap in disadvantage and offer all pupils an inspiring provision which gives equal access to all.

Learning in **Illuminate Minds Trust schools** is more than the acquisition of skills and knowledge. It is also the chance to widen opportunities and expose pupils to a world beyond their lived experiences. We see our role as preparing children and young people for life and society, helping to build sustainable communities where people care about each other and the world around them.

Every subject area has a curriculum which is constructed carefully around sequential learning, revising prior learning and recognising the links between this and future steps. Embedded within each area are enrichment experiences, references to career choices and links to cultures and backgrounds which reflect our pupil population.

Choice is central to our learning offer. Our schools want to equip pupils with the confidence to make their own choices and exposure to experiences which inform those choices. You cannot consider a path in life of which you are unaware.

In order to grow and develop, it is vital that our pupils have the confidence and motivation to accept challenges and recognise that learning is not always easy. We want our pupils to face challenges without fear and know that they can make mistakes, because life will throw things at them and they have the ability to solve problems and overcome them. Success breeds success. Having confidence through actually seeing you can achieve and you can find a way through difficulties is key in continually building the self-awareness and resilience which will enable our pupils to manage themselves through life. Recognising the value of education and knowing that life is about continual learning means that loving learning from the outset is vital. Our curriculum in every subject is shaped to take children on that journey....

CURRICULUM AREA: GEOGRAPHY

Intent

At Illuminate Minds we want to encourage all pupils to develop a curiosity and fascination about their world and its people, a curiosity that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. We aim to equip children with the knowledge and understanding of the diverse world, people, places and environment to enable children to extend their knowledge and understanding beyond the United Kingdom. We inspire to instil a love for inquiry and investigation in our children, motivating them to take an active part in contributing to and protecting this world as they grow up. Above all, we want to provide learning experiences and opportunities that help the children grow and develop as individuals and as members of families and social and economic communities.

Implementation

Our Geography curriculum is designed to nurture pupils' inquisitive thinking and questioning skills, encouraging the pupils to develop a deep knowledge, understanding and appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context. In both schools, Geography is carefully sequenced allowing pupils to connect locational knowledge, place knowledge, human and physical geography and geographical skills and fieldwork. Each learning journey begins with an engaging and captivating hook and allows for opportunities for inquiry and skill acquisition, through carefully crafted lessons.

Impact

Learners will be competent in geographical skills, detailed knowledge and progressive skills with an understanding of how geography has an impact on their way of life and shapes the world they live in. They will acquire the necessary geographical skills to apply to all areas of the curriculum and demonstrate an inquisitive attitude to learning.

Cultural Capital

Field studies and trips are a key element to learning, providing an immersive context allowing children to practise and further develop their skills and explore sources. As we promote cross-curricular opportunities, children are exposed to a range of texts linked to their geography topics and use carefully chosen writing outcomes to produce pieces which have an impact on their local communities or wider world.



CURRICULUM AREA: GEOGRAPHY

Equality and Diversity

Children learn about various different cultures within the wider world. We choose specific areas for children to explore which are key demographics of our wider community. We carefully choose texts linked to the topic which aim to be inclusive and diverse and provide trips and workshops to enhance knowledge of these specific areas.

Our SEND Approach

Our curriculum is carefully sequenced so that children are able to build on their prior learning, meaning all children are able to succeed. Teachers support children in Geography through Quality First Teaching and the use of a range of resources such as Digi Maps, Atlases, Globes and ICT.

