



Geography Intent

At The Academy at St James, we want our children to be fascinated by the world around them and we have created an exciting and skill full geography curriculum which supports this. We want our children be active global citizens who value, respect and appreciate planet Earth and its peoples. We want our children to value their own, and others, surroundings and understand how they can impact our changing world. We want children to be able to 'think like a geographer' and understand that the geography goes beyond the classroom environment and it is important to the way in which we live.

Our geography teaching at The Academy at St James provides opportunities for children to develop their locational knowledge, place knowledge, whilst developing their geography skills and fieldwork to further develop their understanding of the world around them. This helps to create a significance to geography as it is relatable and helps to promote its importance and impact on the children's lives. We place value on locational knowledge by using our local area such as Pity Beck, our own nature reserve, Haworth, Saltaire and Nell Bank to support our children's understanding of the world around them. We place an emphasis on providing, 'real life' experiences for all of our children so they are able to develop their own geography enquiries and understand that there is a world to explore outside of the school setting.

Our geography curriculum builds on knowledge and skills each year and the spiral curriculum we have embedded allows children to 'know more and remember more'. We use regular memory games and retrieval practice within our teaching to support this. At The Academy at St James, we place importance on vocabulary development across the curriculum and expose children to high level terminology that can help them understand the world around them.

Christian Values, Cultural Capital and Pupil Premium enhancements

Our geography curriculum provides opportunities for all to access learning and acquire the important knowledge they need to be global citizens. We want the children to have a sense of wonder and want to travel, explore and have a positive impact on their world. We take into consideration pupils own experiences and values and use these as discussion points to support learning. At The Academy at St James, we encourage children to ask questions so they are exposed to 'awe and wonder'. As previously stated, we place a huge emphasis on using our local area to support children's knowledge and skills. We regularly use our school grounds which links to our Nature Friendly school work whilst having direct access to Pity Beck.

At St James we want our children to leave having a sense of possibilities and adventures which can be had all around the world, whilst developing their confidence, to take journey's great and small. We also want children to be environmentally responsible and take positive action to make a difference at both local and global levels.

The study of geography is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together.

— Barack Obama —



