

# HOLT FARM INFANT SCHOOL

## Geography Policy 2015

The main purpose of a policy for Geography is to ensure that we provide opportunities for all children to build on earlier experiences, developing knowledge, skills and understanding and to prepare them for the future in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

*“A high –quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth’s key physical and human processes. As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepened their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes and the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the framework and approaches that explain how the Earth’s features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.”*

**National Curriculum for England Geography 2013.**

### Links with School Aims

The policy pays full regard to the aims of the school-

*“To provide a happy, caring well-ordered environment, in which children feel safe, secure, valued and respected.”*

*“To provide a stimulating environment that will enlarge the child’s knowledge, experience and imaginative understanding and motivate natural curiosity.”*

*“To provide a well structured balanced curriculum that will help the child to acquire knowledge and skills relevant to adult life in a rapidly changing society.”*

*“To encourage each child to be considerate, co-operative, courteous, tolerant and respectful.”*

*“To promote confidence, self-discipline and a high self-esteem.”*

### Entitlement

All pupils are entitled to access to the Geography Curriculum regardless of race, creed or gender and must have regular access to Geography appropriate to their age and stage of development.

### Aims of the Policy

To ensure the fulfilment of statutory requirements through

- To help each child to develop her/his full potential in all areas of education, according to individual needs and abilities.

- To promote good relationships with the local and wider community, and to promote the active co-operation of teachers, non-teaching staff, governors, parents, advisors and inspectors in achieving the aims of the school.
- Developing knowledge and understanding of ideas, processes and skills and relate these to everyday experiences.
- Learning about ways of thinking and of finding out about and communicating ideas.
- Exploring values and attitudes through Geography.

## Planning

- ☆ Planning should show due regard to National Curriculum programmes of study and breadth of study requirements for geography. . In the Foundation Stage elements of Geography are taught under the heading “Understanding the World”. The objectives are taken from the Guidance for the Foundation Stage Development Matters statement.
- ☆ Adequate coverage must be given to knowledge, skills and understanding and breadth of study.
- ☆ Children should be taught to use the appropriate language and vocabulary relating to geography and be encouraged to question and discuss.
- ☆ Teachers planning should show due regard to health and safety issues.
- ☆ Planning should promote learning and key skills across the curriculum especially those identified in the programme of study.
- ☆ Teachers should plan to use geography to promote pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- ☆ Teachers should plan to use geography to promote the partnership between parents and teachers to encourage parental involvement within the school.
- ☆ When planning teachers should set high expectations and provide opportunities for all pupils to achieve regardless of race, gender or disability.
- ☆ When planning teachers should enable use of I.C.T. tools to support the pupils learning in geography.
- ☆ Teachers must assess geography in line with the assessment and marking policies of the school.
- ☆ Children should be given opportunities to work in a variety of ways including – individually, in groups, pairs and in whole-class situations.

## **Organisation of Resources**

- There is a central store of resources outside rooms 3 & 4.
- Information books are in the library for teaching staff and children to use.
- Resources are stored in boxes labelled with the unit from the scheme of work.
- Each box has a list of resources linked to learning objectives from the QCA unit.
- Every teacher has a list of resources linked to the learning objectives in the units from the scheme of work.

## **Assessment and Monitoring**

Assessment of pupils' achievement is made during units of work. Key learning objectives are identified and assessed. Techniques include

- Observation of pupils at work
- Questioning pupils
- Discussion
- Oral presentations
- Monitoring pupils written and pictorial work
- Geography tasks
- More Able are identified termly and the gifted and talented register is reviewed termly.
- In the Foundation Stage assessments are made under the main heading of "Understanding the World". Assessments are mainly made through observation and questioning.

### **The purpose of assessment is**

- To aid future planning
- To report to parents, pupils and other teachers
- To motivate pupils
- To provide information to the subject co-ordinator and Headteacher about pupils' learning in each QCA unit.

## **Evaluation**

We will judge the success of our Geography teaching by

- The motivation and interest displayed by pupils
- The development over time of pupils' understanding of concepts and processes
- The ability of pupils to apply their understanding to new situations
- Displays of children's work
- The quality of Geography work

## **Co-ordinators Responsibilities**

- Monitoring the teaching and learning of Geography by scrutinising children's work, talking to children, observing teachers, monitoring planning and giving feedback to colleagues, governors and the Headteacher.
- Managing the capitation budget and evaluating resources.
- Reviewing policy statements and schemes of work.
- Auditing staff needs and providing INSET as required.

This policy has been prepared by the Geography Co-ordinator in consultation with teaching staff and governors.

**This policy was reviewed Autumn 2014**

Review date: Autumn 2016