

Curriculum: Geography



‘The study of geography is about more than just memorising 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

Why do we learn Geography?

Geography inspires in our pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Geographers are detectives who not only learn about diverse places, people and natural and human environments around the world, but they also discover their impact on the world. Children are encouraged to use a range of evidence and sources to develop their knowledge of the world, starting with the immediate local world around them and growing to scale the wider world. They also gain an understanding of how humans have changed the geography of the world and how we may affect the future as well. Recurring themes in Geography allow children at Werrington Primary to revisit and elaborate on previous learning.

What are the aims of our Geography curriculum?

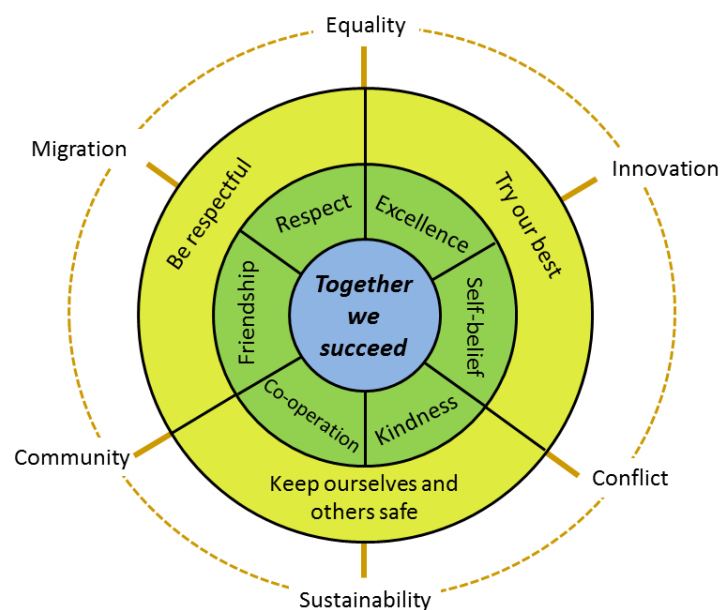
At Werrington Primary School we want to inspire our pupils' curiosity about the world and its people. Whilst learning Geographical facts, they will develop their investigative skills and the ability to ask and answer questions about the world.

We believe that Geography should focus on stimulating the children's interest and understanding about both the local and wider world. We aim for the children to develop a sense of identity and a cultural understanding based on their learning. We teach children to understand how humans in the past and present have changed the geography of the world and why and that this has influenced our lives today. We also encourage children to consider how humans may further impact the geography of the world in the future. As children progress through the school, we provide them with a wider understanding of the world.

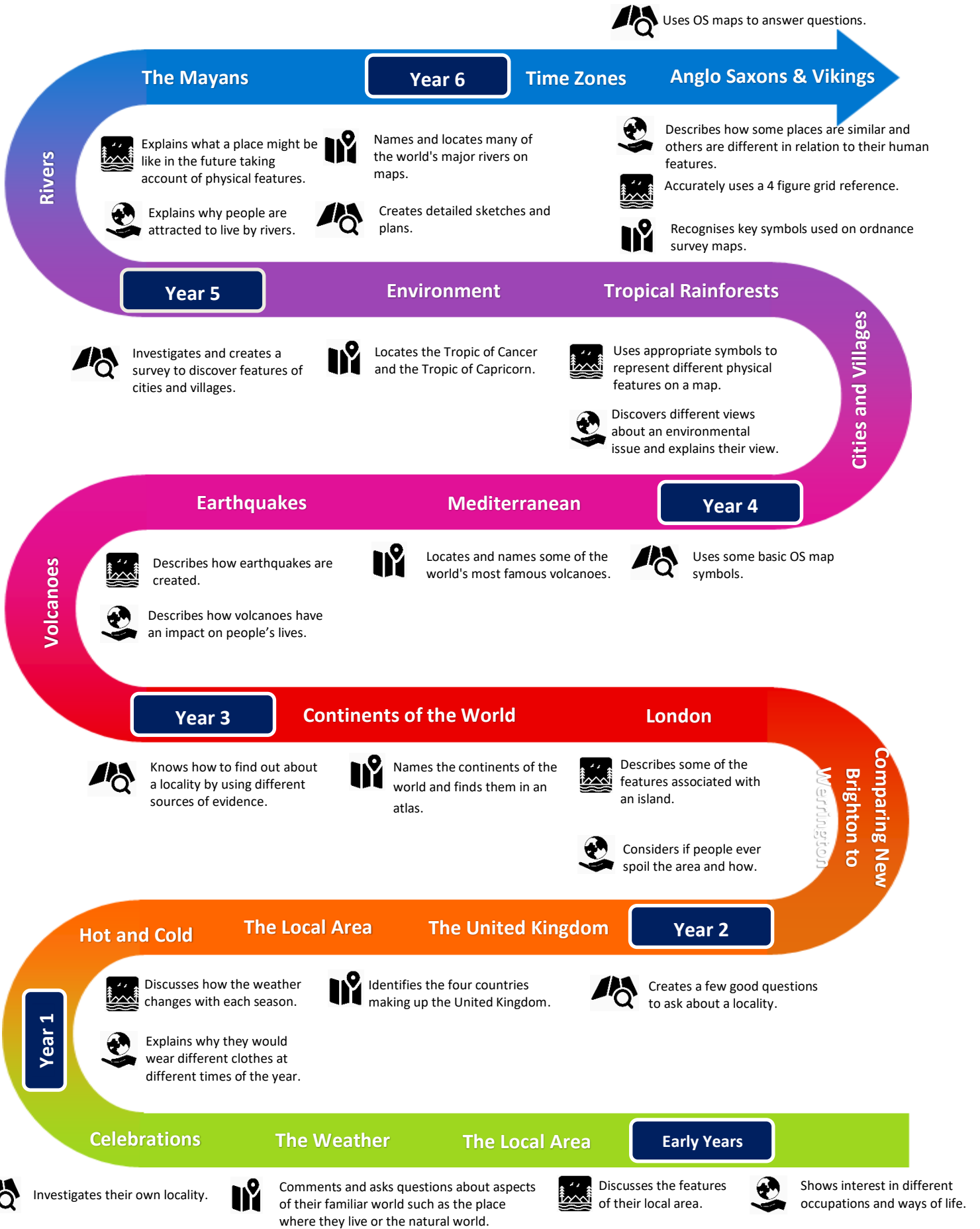
We believe that pupils learn better if they can relate to an event or concept so, wherever possible, we have tried to make links to local Geography.

At Werrington Primary our bespoke curriculum has six golden strands which encompass the core values of our school. These strands run through the Geography curriculum from Nursery to Year 6. Examples of this can be found in the table below.

Equality	Year 2 learn how to explain what facilities a town or village might need.
Innovation	Year 6 learn how to explain how human activity has caused an environment to change.
Conflict	Year 4 learn how to find different views about an environmental issue and how to explain their view.
Sustainability	Year 3 learn how to describe how volcanoes have an impact on people's lives.
Community	Year 1 learn how to name different jobs that people living in their area might do.
Migration	Year 5 learn how to explain why people are attracted to live by rivers.



What do we learn about in Geography at Werrington Primary School?



An example of progression: Geographical Enquiry

Year 6

Children learn about how to explain scale on maps and can use maps with a range of scales. They choose the best way to collect information and decide upon the most appropriate unit of measure, meaning they can make careful and accurate measurements. Children are challenged by identifying their own geographical questions and using these to guide their research when using a range of resources such as maps, atlases, the internet aerial photographs, plans and Ordnance Survey maps.

Year 5

Children are using their knowledge to find possible answers to their own geographical questions and not only are they collecting information, but they also learn how to use it in a report. Children develop their knowledge of maps by creating their own sketches and plans, learning how to improve them and they learn how to map land use.

Year 4

Children learn how to investigate a locality further by creating their own surveys to discover the features of towns and villages. They learn how to accurately collect and measure information, such as rainfall and temperature, and are challenged by using their knowledge to find the same place on a globe, an atlas, a map and an aerial photograph.

Year 3

Children are using correct geographical words to describe a place and the things that happen there. Their knowledge of maps and how they can help them is growing as they now learn about plotting North, South, East and West on different maps, are using four figure grid referencing and are introduced to some Ordnance Survey Map symbols.

Year 2

Children are building their knowledge of geographical vocabulary. They are not only using maps to understand more about their locality or a locality in a different place but are beginning to label these maps with their knowledge of geographical vocabulary.

Year 1

Children learn how to answer some questions using different resources, such as books and atlases. They investigate and explore their locality and are thinking about different ways they can sort the things they like and dislike about their locality. While exploring, children are encouraged to question things in their local community.

EYFS

Children learn what a question is and begin asking questions about things immediately around them which cause curiosity e.g. Why are the leaves falling off the trees? Children learn to question and investigate how and why the environment around them is the way it is and why it also changes. They also develop a curiosity of different cultures around the world and learn about some different celebrations such as Chinese New Year and Diwali. Through this, they begin to learn that people live differently throughout the world.

