St Helen's Church of England Primary School

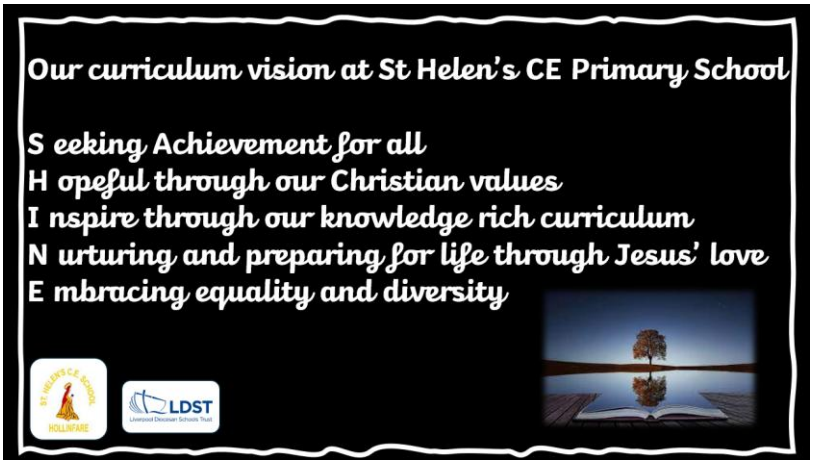
Geography Policy

In His footsteps, we love, learn and shine together.

Shine Curriculum Intent

At St Helens CE Primary School, we envision a future where all children shine brightly, achieving their full potential and making positive contributions to society through our high-quality, progressive curriculum and nurturing Christian values. Through our knowledge-rich approach and commitment to equality and diversity, we inspire confident, inquisitive learners who are prepared for life's challenges with love and support.

Shine Curriculum Values



Seeking achievement for all.
At St Helens CE Primary, we aspire for all children to succeed, achieve and flourish, embracing a high-quality, progressive curriculum. Our students will make positive contributions to the school, society and the world, fostering curiosity and a thirst for knowledge.

Hopeful, through our Christian Values.
At St Helens CE Primary, we empower children with Christian values and biblical teachings to support their families, friends, and community, inspiring them to make a positive impact in the world they live in.

Inspire, through our knowledge-rich curriculum.
At St Helens CE Primary, we are dedicated to provide a knowledge-rich curriculum that empowers all children to become confident, inquisitive, and independent learners. Our sequenced and planned approach ensures that every child leaves our school with a vast knowledge across all subjects, setting them up for success in their academic and personal journeys.

Nurturing and preparing for life, through Jesus' love.
At St Helens CE Primary, we strive to empower every child to reach their full potential by nurturing them with our Christian values. Through our SHINE enrichment programme, we provide opportunities for personal development, equipping our students with cultural capital and essential life skills. Our vision is to create a community where every child can shine brightly and make a positive impact on the world around them.

Embracing equality and diversity.
At St Helens CE Primary, we believe in the inherent potential of every child to achieve and succeed. We foster a culture where each student is valued as a unique individual, treated with dignity, respect and kindness. Our vision is to create a nurturing and inclusive environment that empowers students to flourish academically, socially, and emotionally, preparing them to positively impact their community and the world.

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Curriculum Implementation

Teaching Expectations

Geography at Foundation Stage is covered in the **'Understanding the World'** area of the EYFS Curriculum and is taught at St Helen's CE Primary using the 'Development Matters' guidance.

A new Geography unit is taught each term in Key stage One and Key Stage two. Geography knowledge is included in retrieval tasks and sticky knowledge assessment practise on a weekly basis.

Structure of lessons:

Retrieval:

- All children will participate in a short task focused on retrieving previously learned knowledge.
- The varied tasks aim to reinforce key knowledge and help students make progress across the curriculum.
- The knowledge being retrieved may come from past lessons, units of work or even previous school years.
- The intention is for students to permanently retain this knowledge and apply it in their learning.

Introduce new Vocabulary:

- All children will be introduced to key vocabulary at the start of each lesson.
- Teachers will provide definitions, examples and actions to help students remember the key vocabulary effectively.
- Students will be challenged to learn and correctly apply the meaning of these words throughout the lesson and in future lessons.

Teach:

- The teacher will share the core knowledge for the lesson with the children using a range of teaching strategies and quality resources.

Tasks- Collaborative

- Children are encouraged to work with a partner for collaborative learning.
- Tasks assigned are short and aim to facilitate discussion and cooperation.
- Students are expected to apply their understanding of new information taught.
- Collaborative learning helps students to deepen their understanding and build on each other's ideas.

Tasks- Independent/Group

- The children will work independently on a task or as part of a small group.
- These tasks will vary lesson by lesson and will require the children to apply what they have learned or apply their newly acquired skills.

Summarise-

- The teacher will summarise the learning that has taken place in the lesson explaining how it builds on previous learning and where their learning will take them next.

Reading in our curriculum

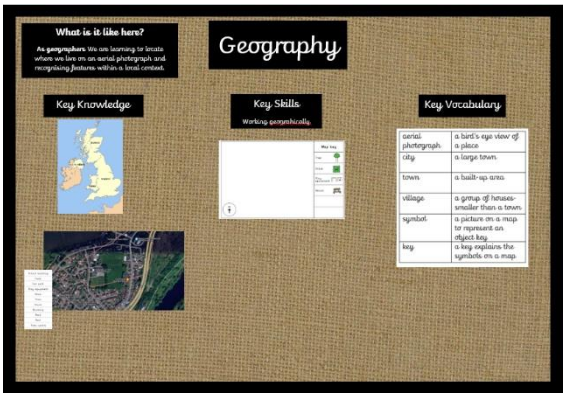
- Reading is a priority in all lessons for children. It is seen as the key to all learning and is essential for overall academic success.
- Children will read a variety of texts including fiction, information, poetry, online glossaries, information from websites and blogs.
- Quality texts based around the subject and unit will be planned for and indicated on long term plans. These texts may be used as a hook into the learning, referred to in the lesson or in the learning environment for inspiration and for children to access independently.

Use of resources

- The subject lead and class teachers must ensure they have the required resources for teaching including the texts that will be used to enhance the learning.
- The subject lead will carry out an audit of the resources in school for their subject.
- Teachers should discuss with the subject lead if any additional resources are needed.

Working walls

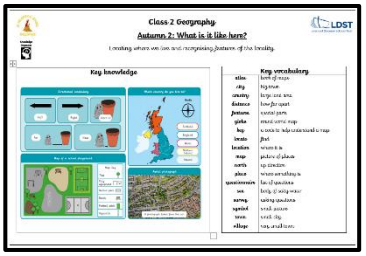
- Working walls will have the subject title and a description of the unit being taught starting with the phrase 'As geographers we are learning to…'.
- Working walls should be used as a tool to support and retrieve learning and include key vocabulary and definitions, key (substantive) knowledge and how this is applied through key skills (disciplinary knowledge). Relevant maps will be displayed.



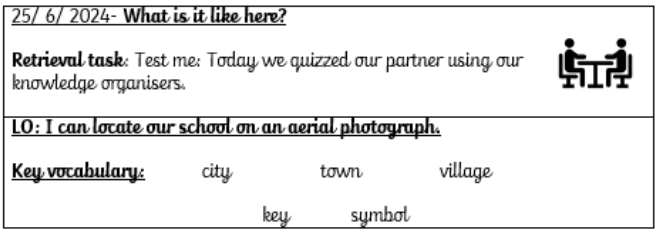
Presentation in books

- Each new unit of work will have a unit cover followed by the unit knowledge organiser





- Each lesson will have a lesson label which will include:
  -Date
  -Unit title
  -Retrieval task
  -Learning objective
  -Key vocabulary for the lesson
- Units will finish with an exit task
- Teachers are expected to have high expectations of presentation.



Assessment

- Assessment should be used continuously to inform teaching strategies.
- Teachers should assess students on their knowledge after every lesson and plan for the next steps in teaching accordingly
- Lesson retrieval tasks, unit exit tasks and sticky knowledge jar retrieval exercises will be used to assess children's learning and are effective in addressing gaps in students' knowledge.
- Feedback and marking should be used in accordance with the school's policy to indicate student progress and next steps.

Impact

By the end of EYFS our pupils will be able to:

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.
- Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.

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By the end of KS1, our pupils will be able to:

Locational knowledge

- name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans
- name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas

Place knowledge

- understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country

Human and physical geography

- identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles
- use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather
- use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage
- use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map
- use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key
- use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment.

By the end of KS2, our pupils will be able to:

Locational knowledge

- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities
- name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time
- identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)

Place knowledge

- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America

Human and physical geography

- describe and understand key aspects of:

-physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle

-human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world
- use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.