

**St Simon’s Geography Statement of Intent**

**Intent**

*Why do we teach this? Why do we teach it the way we do?*

Geography is essential in developing an understanding of the world we live in. Our staff realise that Geography helps to provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. At St Simon’s children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. Our geography curriculum is designed to enable children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferrable to other curriculum areas. Geography is an investigative subject, which provides children with access to a wide variety of concepts, knowledge and skills. At St Simon’s our intent, when teaching geography, is to inspire in our children a curiosity and fascination about the world and people within it and to promote the children’s interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments.

**Implementation**

*What do we teach? What does this look like?*

Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision to STRIVE, which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be.

At St Simon’s, we teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This helps teachers ensure that skills and knowledge are built on year by year. It is important that children develop the skills of a geographer by fully immersing them in all areas of the subject. To provide our children with the best opportunity to develop these skills, we try to ensure that our local area is fully utilised to achieve desired outcomes, with opportunities for learning outside the classroom when the opportunities arise. School trips and fieldwork are encouraged to give first hand experiences, which helps to enhance children’s understanding of the world beyond their locality.

**Impact***what will this look like?*

By the time children leave St Simon’s Catholic Primary School they will:

* Have a secure knowledge of where places are and what they are like.
* Have an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary.
* Have the ability to apply questioning skills and use effective analytical and presentational techniques.
* Have the ability to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain findings.
* Have significant levels of originality, imagination or creativity as shown in interpretations and representations of the subject matter.
* Have the ability to draw on their experiences of fieldwork and other geographical skills and techniques and apply them to various geographical topics.
* Have developed a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there.
* Have the ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.

The integral nature of the Geography curriculum at St Simon’s creates rich opportunities for children to access fundamental skills including:

* A respect for **spiritual** and cultural diversity.
* Being **trusted** when interacting and working with others.
* Increased **resilience** to continue trying and improving through a process of self-reflection.
* An **inquisitive** nature to explore new things and take risks.
* Being **valued** both individually and as part of a team.
* A sense of **exceptional** achievement.