



## Highgate Geography Subject Intent

**Character & Curiosity:** Our curriculum aims to extend the children's knowledge to be worldly aware. We develop awe and wonder through the breadth of the curriculum. From learning about Hot and Cold places around the World in Year 1, Amazing Africa in Year 2, to a study of Italy and its interesting landscapes. The children learn about the diversity of the earth and its risk of change in a study of South America. We encourage children to develop a respect for different cultures and places that they study. We provide children with a wider awareness of the places around them from villages, towns and cities to the wider world.

**Cultural Capital:** The children are introduced to the wonderful world and the amazing places and cultures within it.

**Skills:** Our geography curriculum starts with spatial awareness which grounds the children in the skills they will use in future learning. These skills such as using symbols in a key, interpreting scale, reading climate graphs, identifying locations using co-ordinates and map reading are then weaved in and applied in further units of work. The big ideas, the disciplinary concepts, are weaved throughout the lessons: Place, Space, Scale, Interdependence, Physical and Human Processes, Environmental Impact, Sustainable Development, Cultural Awareness, and Cultural Diversity. They are taught and developed over time through building knowledge and making connections.

**Knowledge:** The knowledge in Highgate's curriculum is organised and sequenced. Knowledge builds, the children start building knowledge of places that they can relate to from Early Years Foundation Stage to Key Stage 1 (KS1). The knowledge taught then in KS1 widens to places around the world and deepens in terms of types of locations within the United Kingdom. Knowledge continues to build about the structures and topography features in the UK and the children learn about the wider world from Italy, to rivers, mountain, volcanoes and The Americas.

**Links across the Curriculum:** The Highgate geography curriculum builds on from prior learning; we have designed this so that children are able to activate their prior learning and background knowledge to build and deepen their learning. Additionally, there are links across subjects: the children learn about Italy in Geography, this provides them with background knowledge for their study of 'The Romans' and the children learn about the geographical features of Leicester and York before embarking on a study of 'The War of the Roses'. We make links to subjects such as Science in units of study such as 'Taking Care of the Earth'. Sustainability runs through our Design Technology units when for example the children take part in a unit of work called 'Up-Cycling Fashion'.

**Early Years Foundation Curriculum:** Geography in the EYFS curriculum sits under the Understanding the World area of learning. At Highgate children develop a sense of themselves and their family as a community. The children learn early map skills by drawing maps of simple journeys. The children learn about the seasons across the year describing Autumn, Spring, Summer and Winter. They further their knowledge by learning about cold places and their features such as animals and climate. In the summer term, they learn about hot places around the world and the types of food that is grown there. Finally, they begin to learn about different landscapes with a visit to the seaside.

**SEN:** At Highgate we are a fully inclusive school and believe that all children should be able to access a broad and balanced curriculum. Adaptive teaching is used to ensure all children can access all learning. Children are provided with scaffolds such as pictorial strips to aid their writing, word mats and mixed ability pairings. We also use alternative methods of recording such as mind maps.