

St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School

Our Vision for Geography

At **St Paul and St Timothy's**, our vision is for every child to develop a deep curiosity about the world, a strong sense of place, and an understanding of the diverse environments and communities that make up our planet. We believe that **Geography** is a vital subject that helps children make sense of the world around them—locally, nationally, and globally. Through rich, enquiry-based learning, our children become confident explorers, using geographical skills to investigate places, people, and natural processes, while recognising their role as responsible global citizens.

Intent

Our geography curriculum, designed through the **Cornerstones Curriculum**, inspires children to develop a lifelong fascination with the world and its people.

Our intent is that children will:

- Develop a *sense of place*, starting with their immediate surroundings in **West Derby and Liverpool**, before expanding to the UK and the wider world.
- Understand key human and physical geographical features, processes, and patterns.
- Develop geographical enquiry skills such as observing, questioning, collecting data, and interpreting maps, globes, and digital tools.
- Grow in confidence using geographical language and vocabulary to communicate their understanding.
- Build awareness of environmental issues and the importance of caring for their local and global environments.
- Make meaningful cross-curricular connections, embedding geography in a wider understanding of the world.

Implementation

Our geography curriculum is structured around the **Cornerstones Curriculum**, which sequences learning progressively from EYFS to Key Stage 1, ensuring the development of both geographical knowledge and skills.

Key features of our implementation include:

- Geography is embedded within cross-curricular projects such as *Our Wonderful World*, *Bright Lights*, *Big City*, and *Coastline*, providing meaningful contexts for learning.
- Children follow a clear progression of knowledge and skills, carefully mapped to build year on year, as outlined in the Cornerstones progression framework.
- Enquiry-based learning drives the curriculum, with children encouraged to ask questions, investigate, and find answers about places and environments.

- Fieldwork plays a central role—children explore their local area, use simple maps, conduct observational studies, and collect real-world data.
- High-quality resources, including maps, globes, atlases, aerial photographs, and digital tools, are regularly used to support learning.
- Lessons are designed to be interactive, practical, and engaging, with explicit links to other subjects such as history, science, and design technology where appropriate.
- Children are taught about sustainability and caring for the world, embedding environmental responsibility as a core value.

Impact

By the end of Key Stage 1, children at St Paul and St Timothy's will:

- Have a secure understanding of their local area, the wider UK, and some significant global places.
- Use geographical vocabulary with confidence to describe places, features, and processes.
- Apply geographical skills such as using maps, interpreting symbols, making observations, and asking thoughtful questions.
- Understand how human and physical geography affects their lives and the lives of others.
- Develop a sense of responsibility as global citizens who understand how their actions impact the world.
- Retain and apply geographical knowledge in real-life contexts, both in their local community and beyond.

We assess geography through regular formative assessment, pupil voice, learning walks, and work scrutiny to ensure that every child makes progress and develops as a confident, capable young geographer.