

Curriculum Principles

Geography

By the end of KS2, students of geography at Music Primary will:

- possess an understanding of a wide range of challenging geographical concepts through strategic exposure to diverse geographical contexts.
- understand the relationship between human and physical geographical processes

In order to achieve a true understanding of geography, topics have been intelligently sequenced based on the following rationale:

- our geography curriculum incorporates fundamental geographical knowledge and skills, allowing students to build on a firm foundation in future years
- it is based on the only safe assumption that a teacher can make: that the student might go on to study geography at university, require particular geographical knowledge in their future career, or need particular geographical knowledge or skills to enable them to be active members of society. As a result, the curriculum has been designed to be fit for that purpose.
- an introduction to settlements, tectonic processes and hydrological and climatic processes introduce Year 3 pupils to concepts, vocabulary and knowledge that is capitalised on in subsequent years, laying important foundations of much of their future geographical learning.
- when pupils study Migration in Year 4, they will utilise their knowledge of settlement types in order to deepen their understanding of migration patterns. This knowledge and understanding support their comprehension of why communities develop around areas of rich natural resources, and how slums develop. The Natural Resources unit then feeds into the Year 5 unit on Energy and Sustainability, by supporting pupils' understanding of where energy comes from and how greater sustainability can be achieved.
- the Year 6 units on Population and Globalisation draw on themes that have been explored throughout KS2, so pupils are really able to approach these complex topics with a great depth and breadth of knowledge. The Rivers unit in Year 4 follows on from the Water, Weather and Climate unit and pupils then continue to build on this knowledge of physical processes through the Biomes unit.
- the Local Fieldwork unit is in Year 6, so that pupils are exposed to geographical research in KS2. This is a crucial part of a child's geographical education and we have intentionally incorporated this unit at the end of KS2 to capitalise on their greater maturity and geographical knowledge.

At Music Primary, the geography curriculum will address social disadvantage by addressing gaps in students' knowledge and skills:

- the Geography curriculum will expose students to knowledge and skills they may otherwise fail to encounter in their everyday lives. The study of Geography will develop the ability to support arguments with specific evidence. This will allow students to discuss and debate topical issues with confidence, credibility and clarity.

We fully believe geography can contribute to the personal development of students at Music Primary:

- students will gain knowledge of the different cultures of our planet and will encounter challenging themes such as the development gap, conflict and climate change. Gaining knowledge of these issues will develop students understanding of the global social and moral issues of today and of those facing future generations.