Askam Village School – Everybody Matters, Every Moment Counts
Curriculum statement for the teaching and learning of Geography 2023-2025

Intent	At Askam Village School we intend to develop children's understanding and knowledge about the natural and human aspects of the world, providing them with specific skills and vocabulary as well as developing a curiosity of the world they live in. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; to promote the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. This will be conducted through carefully planned and effectively resourced lessons with a view to enhance children's knowledge, skills and understanding. By revisiting these areas of learning regularly children will remember more, know more and understand more. Our geography provision aims to teach our children to engage in an ever-changing world where it is increasingly important to have an understanding of our local environment as well as the world around us. It is our intention to enable children to create thought provoking questions about the world around them, as well as facilitating them to find out the answers to questions about both physical and human aspects of the world. Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum at Askam Village School is designed to enable children to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive and transferable to other curriculum areas. Geography skills are a major factor in enabling children to be confident, creative and independent learners and it is our intention that children have every opportunity available to allow them to achieve this.			
Underpinned by	The teaching of skills	The application of skills	The teaching of knowledge	Vocabulary
	Our pupils will be taught how to use a range of geographical resources which will enable them to develop a range of skills, such as mapping and investigative skills. Pupils will use a range of maps as well as technology to explore the world around them. The skills the pupils learn will be transferrable and will support them as they look at a wide range of resources which are key to the study of the subject.	Askam Village School pupils are given regular opportunities to apply the skills that they have been taught to support their learning in our other curriculum subjects. Throughout their time at our school, students will apply their geographical skills to a range of maps that will become more complex and detailed. They will also apply their expanding knowledge of geographical vocabulary to practical, investigative and written tasks.	Geography is taught through core themes: locational knowledge, place knowledge and human and physical geography - with a consistent underlying use of geographical skills. Each theme is taught in a series of lessons showing a progression of knowledge and skill in order for children to develop and achieve a depth in their learning. At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they already know, as well as what they would like to find out. In EYFS the main focus is on the local area and the community encouraging children to compare countries through the use of photographs, stories and personal experiences. Children will describe familiar routes and use positional language as well as using their senses to gain hands on experiences exploring, and learning to care for, the natural world and its materials. KS1 learning includes looking at the UK as a whole with a contrasting non-European country and KS2 focusses on different regions of the UK and European countries, dependent on the skills and knowledge being taught across specific year groups.	Askam pupils will understand and use a range of appropriate geographical vocabulary, including what is associated with human and physical geography, e.g. trade, distribution, environment, biomes, longitude and latitude.

Implementation	**Curriculum Approach** Pupils engage at regular opportunities within Geography lessons and are guided, supported and stretched through the topics which build upon previously learned knowledge and skills. Pupils working at greater depth are able to broaden their knowledge and skills within these units. They will be encouraged to use a wider range of geographical language, as well as being given opportunities to form their own opinions on a location or debate, using the geographical facts they have learned. The geography skills for each year group are best linked to the topics that are being studied and links are often made across the wider curriculum. Skills established in geography lessons are used throughout the curriculum to support and enhance the learning, eg. Using language for debate when studying the pros or cons for a certain location or land or business development.		
	Local Context Our curriculum weaves local geography through all year groups. Throughout their time at Askam Village School pupils will learn about a variety of areas, covering a range of human and physical features, including looking at local mountains, rivers and comparing them to other areas of the UK and contrasting EU/non-EU countries. Pupils have access to our extensive field area and a nature area within our school grounds. Residential opportunities, where students are immersed in new environments (Y4-Y6). Opportunities will be provided where students will navigate new surroundings and will learn to apply map reading skills.	**Thoughtful Questioning** Questions are woven through the planning for the units of work allowing pupils to think deeply and logically about their work at hand. Pupils working towards the learning expectations are supported through careful questioning and peer support. All pupils ask questions at the beginning of a unit and are encouraged to ask questions as their knowledge and skills develop throughout a unit.	**SMSC** Our geography curriculum develops the pupil's knowledge of the local community and the wider world. We provide an opportunity for learners to establish their place within the world whilst developing an understanding of other cultures and a tolerance for those that are different to ours. Pupils have a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, with a willingness to reflect on their experience.
	Resources Pupils at Askam are able to access a selection of resources including maps, atlases and digital tools, such as Digimap and Google Earth. We have resources available that allow children to investigate the local area and identify how the community has changed. Children are supported in navigating new resources and are then encouraged to use resources with increasing independence and with more critical judgement and awareness as they progress through the school.	**External Stimuli** Pupils are taught about the local environment and are given opportunities to investigate and make links to the wider world. Children are encouraged to compare different localities as well as identifying similarities and differences between them.	**Sharing work** Sharing work Pupils' work in geography is recorded in geography books and is shared between pupils and staff. There are frequent opportunities to publish learning to create displays and show the process of the work as the unit develops. Occasionally, geography work is shown in assemblies alongside other curricular subjects. Learning can be responsibly shared online with parents, by using our social media platforms.

Impact	By the end of the key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the subject of Geography programme of study.			
	PUPIL VOICE	EVIDENCE IN KNOWLEDGE	EVIDENCE IN SKILLS	BREADTH AND DEPTH
	Pupils are interested in geography and enjoy the variety of topics which are taught. Comparing different areas brought up lots of discussion, and relevant questions. Pupils enjoy creating maps, and developing their mapping skills. Pupils take pride in their work.	Pupils understand where their knowledge fits into the outside world and why it is important to develop their geography knowledge and skills. Pupils are able to articulate themselves using acquired vocabulary from the geography unit modules. Pupils are provided with opportunities to discuss their knowledge verbally as well as presenting what they know in written forms too.	Pupils are able to apply their skills to investigate new geographical locations and explain how and why they have reached that conclusion. Pupils are confident at explaining their work to people and their work is at an expected or greater standard. Within the Geography curriculum, there are opportunities for all to demonstrate their skills, including through written evidence, as well as more practical and investigative tasks.	Pupils have developed their ideas to and beyond the expected standard for the end of unit expectations. Pupils are confident in explaining their thoughts and feelings about their work and are reflective about their working process. Some children are then able to use their skills and knowledge and make links across other topics and other curriculum areas. Through reflecting on the subject, children are then able to self-identify what skills they would then like to improve and develop.