

Subject Statement:

At HDL, Geography helps pupils to understand the world around them and their place within it. Through the study of people, places and environments, pupils develop curiosity about the wider world whilst building the knowledge, vocabulary and confidence needed to become increasingly independent and informed young people.

Our curriculum has been carefully sequenced to meet the needs of pupils within a specialist SEND setting. Pupils begin by exploring their local environment, weather, animals and simple place knowledge before progressing to wider geographical themes including rivers, coasts, settlements, population, climate, development and globalisation. This progression supports pupils to move from concrete and experiential learning towards more abstract geographical thinking and enquiry.

Geographical skills are developed progressively throughout the curriculum. In the middle pathway, pupils are introduced to maps, atlases and basic geographical skills. As they move into Upper School, they apply these skills through Ordnance Survey mapwork, fieldwork and the collection and analysis of real-world data.

Geography at HDL is highly visual, practical and discussion rich. Lessons make use of maps, photographs, videos, Google Earth, fieldwork and enquiry-based activities to support engagement and understanding. Assessment is low stakes, inclusive and ongoing. Teachers use retrieval practice, questioning, discussion, practical outcomes and adapted written tasks to assess understanding. Through Geography, pupils develop not only subject knowledge but also communication, vocabulary, independence and an appreciation of the wider world, preparing them for adulthood and life beyond school.

Class	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Orange Cycle 1	Old MacDonald had a farm (Twinkl)	Around the world (Kapow Primary)	Minibeasts (Twinkl)
Orange Cycle 2	Dinosaurs (Twinkl)	Exploring maps (Kapow)	Outdoor adventures (Kapow)
Cherry Cycle 1	Local area	Continents and oceans Cities in the UK Seasons and the weather	Seven wonders of the world
Cherry Cycle 2	Rainforests (Hamilton Brookes)	Extreme earth – volcanoes and earthquakes Using a compass	India
Conker Cycle 1	Rivers	Who lives in Antarctica? (Kapow)	USA and Mexico
Conker Cycle 2	Europe – describe and understand key aspects of physical geography <i>(Oak National KS2 'Europe – How diverse are its landscapes and places?')</i>	Geographical skills / map skills <i>(Hamilton Brookes)</i>	Coasts <i>(Oak National KS3 'Coasts – What shapes life at the Coast?')</i>
Oak Cycle 1	Rainforests (Hamilton Brookes)	Extreme earth – volcanoes and earthquakes Using a compass	India
Oak Cycle 2	Settlements and land use <i>(BBC Bitesize KS2 Geography – what are settlements, Oak National KS2 –Year 3)</i>	Nigeria – An African country study <i>(Oak National KS3 – 'Nigeria an African superpower')</i>	Forest Biomes <i>(Oak National KS3 – Year 7 Why are forests so important?)</i>

	<i>'Settlements – where do people live and why?)</i>		
Maple Cycle 1	Weather, climate and natural hazards <i>(Oak KS3 'Weather and Climate: How do they vary?)</i>	Population and urbanisation <i>(Oak KS3 Population – Where do people live?)</i>	Tourism and the local economy (Royal Geographical Society/ Geography.org resources/ BBC Bitesize KS3 Tourism)
Maple Cycle 2	Cities <i>(Oak KS3 Year 8 'Cities – what are they like to live in?)</i>	Development and inequality <i>(Oak KS3 Development – How unequal is the world?)</i>	Energy and resources (National Grid ESO / Oak climate resources)
Palm Cycle 1	Population – where do people live? (Oak National)	Ordnance Survey maps Fieldwork – collecting and analysing data around the school site	China (Oak National)
Palm Cycle 2	Ice and glaciers (Oak National)	Climate change and sustainability	Globalisation (Oak National)