Manadon 'Subject on a page'-October 2026

Subject: Geography

## Curriculum Intent

At Manadon Vale, we aim to provide a high-quality geography curriculum to inspire, challenge and engage children to understand more about the world around them. Teaching key concepts such as location, mapping, place, physical and human features through different contexts allows us to continually build on these concepts ensuring clear and rich progression. 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, equipping them well for further education and beyond.

## Curriculum Implementation

Geography at Manadon Vale is taught using an enquiry-based approach. The key knowledge and skills of each blocked topic are mapped across the school, ensuring that knowledge builds progressively and that children develop skills systematically. Relevant existing knowledge is checked at the beginning of each topic using our knowledge organizer as a tool to identify, "What do I already know that will help me?". Children can use this organizer to ask questions that specifically interest them about the topic. This ensures that teaching is informed by the children's starting points and that it takes account of pupil voice, incorporating children's interests. Tasks are selected and designed to provide appropriate challenges to all learners and to develop independent working and confidence, in line with the school's commitment to inclusion.

We organize educational field trips to local geographically significant areas so children. We leverage technology to provide students with access to world maps, navigation strategies and maps through time showing how land has changed.

## Curriculum Impact

At Manadon Vale, pupil voice demonstrates that children are confident and able to talk about what they have learnt in geography using subject specific vocabulary and key concepts that have been woven through the curriculum. Children's voice also demonstrates that pupils enjoy geography and can recall their learning over time. Pupils' work demonstrates that geography is taught at an age-appropriate standard across each year group with opportunities planned in for pupils working at greater depth. Work is of good quality and demonstrates pupils are acquiring knowledge, skills and vocabulary in an appropriate sequence.

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## School Improvement Priorities

Progress: To use ongoing assessment effectively to close the academic gaps between key groups to ensure that all children make at least expected progress from their own starting point in reading, writing and maths.

Curriculum: To monitor the impact of curriculum provision and enrichment opportunities to ensure all children have access to a broad and balanced curriculum that meets their needs.

English – To develop staff's pedagogical knowledge in relation to writing so that we create confident and proficient writers, building on our embedded approaches to communication, language, phonics and reading.

Culture - To create a positive culture throughout the school, rooted in our school values and positive behaviour to in turn increase NOR and attendance to be above the primary national average – 94.6% with a school target of 97%.

What are your key priorities? (Action Plan 2026-2027)

Use systems such as Knowledge Organiser to measure/ determine progress of children against key objectives in Foundation Subjects.
Embed a positive culture throughout the entire school, making school a happy place to be where children feel they belong and want to attend every day.
Share reviewed behaviour policy with all staff, children and parent/carers, making school expectations clear with a focus on building relationships. Strengthen curriculum leadership and monitoring, ensuring subject leaders can demonstrate the impact of their subject provision on pupils' knowledge and outcomes.
Subject leaders to monitor to ensure breadth and depth in their subject within the whole school connected curriculum, including feeding back to individuals and year groups and monitoring next steps.
Subject leaders to complete the monitoring document for their subject when carrying out moderation during learning visits, pupil voice, book looks and planning scrutiny.
Develop and monitor enrichment opportunities so that all pupils, including demographic groups have meaningful experiences beyond the classroom which broaden their knowledge, vocabulary, aspirations and cultural capital. Monitoring of this will be reported through Absolute Education.
To ensure that every child completes their '30 Ways to Connect' by the end of their time at Manadon Vale – experiences to be displayed in school hall and classrooms.
To support children in understanding their local community and their place in the world, including our drive for sustainability.
Embed a positive culture throughout the entire school, making school a happy place to be where children feel they belong and want to attend every day.

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## Voice behind the subject (How do we know?)

- Pupil voice/quotes
- Parent comments
- Teacher voice
- Book looks/monitoring
- Learning walks
- Learning walls and displays promoting building substantive knowledge.

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## Adaptive Teaching

- The use of mixed ability groupings to support and guide pupils with developing their understanding.
- Providing examples of the types of outcomes that should be expected for most pupils.
- Providing more initial support with resourcing for an activity e.g., scaffolded sentences for explanation
- The use of Widgits to support the understanding of new language and concepts.
- Encourage sketching of ideas and spoken explanations which can be scribed.

## Provision for all

- High quality curriculum with planning and resources provided.
- Quality first teaching.
- Children have access to and use high quality resources.
- Children being actively involved in the lesson.
- Targeted questioning in lessons.
- Assessment for Learning techniques.
- Targeted planning to consolidate knowledge.
- Mixed ability and targeted grouping.
- Use of Widgits and reference sheets.
- Adaptive teaching.

## Enrichment opportunities

Many of our children lack opportunities and experiences at home. We aim to improve their cultural capital through:

- Topic related trips and visiting experts will enhance the learning experience (Kents Cavern, Plymouth Hoe, Dewerstone Cottage);
- Access to topic boxes from The Box to provide exciting hooks in to units of learning.

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