

Geography

Vision and Intent



Co-op Academy
Grange

Our Vision for Geography at Co-op Academy Grange

Students leave Co-op Academy Grange as an excellent Geographer who will be able to show...

- How the physical and human world work, and how they interact with one another both positively and negatively.
- Confidence in understanding what can be done on a variety of scales from the local area around Bradford, the national area of the UK and globally to ensure that the planet will be here to sustain the growing population for future generations.
- How complex physical processes and human interactions play a huge role in changing our already dynamic planet and being able to analyse and use skills-based knowledge such as maps, photographs, and data to support this understanding.
- How the views of others and empathise with different cultures and traditions across the globe where people live in varying and often contrasting levels of development.
- How they can 'think like a geographer' and ask inquisitive questions that will help them to think critically about certain scenarios and situations.
- Expertise in using a range of graph and map skills to support their understanding of places and apply these skills when carrying out their own fieldwork.

Our expertly sequenced and ambitious curriculum doesn't just deliver knowledge, which is useful or interesting, but instead is a catalyst to change how students think, feel, and take stewardship over the planet they live on. Knowledge taught in Geography is not just powerful but empowering too.

Our Intent for Geography at Co-op Academy Grange

Our Curriculum – What do we want our Geography curriculum to be?

Our Principles for the pedagogic delivery of Geography at Co-op Academy Grange are based around:

- **Knowledge and Vocabulary Rich:** students build on and develop powerful deep knowledge, able to use tier three terminology fluently in their everyday lessons and are able to articulate these words in their everyday language.
- **Sequenced and Coherent:** Our curriculum is mapped so that it builds on powerful knowledge in layers, connecting different topics meaningfully together and increasing in synopticity as students' progress through the different years.
- **Evidence Informed:** Our pedagogic tools such as retrieval starters, vocabulary unlocking and embedded skills in each lesson are rooted in the application of best practice, building memory capacity through frequent recall and retrieval and using memorable events that the students will have lived through where they are relevant to our taught curriculum.
- **Diverse:** Our curriculum explores many places of global significance to be inclusive of all learners – our Geography curriculum aims to ensure students see themselves and is representative of our community within and across the curriculum.
- **Appropriate Assessment:** Assessment is purposeful and done at every lesson from verbal feedback to written feedback. Core knowledge is tested frequently with interleaving opportunities built in across topics and year groups to create a culture of continuous learning.
- **Embeds Modern Technology:** Our curriculum is filled with opportunities for engagement with and understanding of how to use technologies Global Information Systems (GIS) of technologies related to fieldwork such as the use of weather stations or clinometers.

Our Principles for the Impact our Curriculum has on the 'person' studying Geography are:

- Students will develop a love of the natural and human world within their studies at Co-op Academy Grange and beyond.
- Students will develop geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enrich students' everyday life as well as in their professional life when they leave Co-op Academy Grange.
- Students will develop an awareness and recognition of how diverse the world is in which we all live.
- Students will develop as effective communicators who are reflective in their practice, able to link knowledge, skills, and debate together to recognise key issues facing our planet and our future existence.
- Students will develop the ability to live their lives more sustainably and instil a sense of stewardship in how their daily ways of being promote sustainability.

What does it look like in the classroom? (Implementation)

Students will experience consistent routines such as:

- Exercise books being out on the table near the door and a starter activity on the board.
- Be seated in their allocated seat according to the specific teacher's plan.
- Not be able to put their hand-up to answer questions but instead be ready for any opportunity to answer all questions.
- Expecting that at the end of a lesson, students are standing behind a chair, dismissed row by row and place their exercise book in the box on the way out.
- The setting of homework in line with the academy policy.
- Positives ClassChart points to be rewarded each lesson to those showing they are Ready, Respectful and Safe as well as exemplifying the Co-op ways of being.

Students will experience consistent pedagogical styles such as

- Retrieval starter activity for every lesson.
- New knowledge delivered in chunks that do not cause cognitive overload.
- Modelling and scaffolding so all students can be stretched and challenged.
- Targeted expert questioning styles used which build up in difficulty to challenge the most able.
- Reciprocal reading opportunities and opportunities to better understand key vocabulary.
- Regular feedback through Misconception and Milestone marking events in the classroom.

Students will experience lessons in a consistently productive and purposeful environment such as:

- Vibrant classroom displays with up-to-date information on.
- Tidy and well organised classroom which exemplifies expectations they too show good organisation.
- Coats on chairs and bags on the floor to avoid any distractions.

What will the impact be?

Our impact will be simple. Our Geographers will be aspirational in Geography based fields of employment and have a wide knowledge about these therefore having something to aspire towards. Our lessons will show students how Geography can take them around the world in a varied number of careers. Our Geographers will be well rounded students with knowledge of and ability to interpret the world in which they live. They will understand their roles as 'stewards' of our planet and support others. Our numbers will be high as students enter Key Stage Four and many of our students will go onto further academic study in the remit around Geography. Our Geographers will be experts with a range of physical, social and environmental geography knowledge and skills. Our outcomes will be high so that all doors and opportunities remain open for our Geographers as they move onto their next steps beyond Co-op Academy Grange.