

The Foundations of Geography



At the John Henry Newman Academy we understand that the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is structured very differently to the national curriculum as it is organised across 7 areas of learning, rather than discrete subjects.

Each subject leader endeavours to make sure their subject meets the need of every child in the school, from Nursery to Year 6. Therefore, this document shows which statements and areas from the '2020 Development Matters' are essential knowledge and skills for Geography in The National Curriculum. The table below outlines the most relevant statements taken from the Early Learning Goals (ELG) in the EYFS statutory framework, the Development Matters age ranges for the Three and Four-Year-Olds and Reception as well as any relevant texts outlined to match the programme of study for Geography.

Geography			
Programme of Study	EYFS Area		Statements
Three and Four-Year-Olds	Mathematics		- Understanding position through words alone. For example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing. - Describe a familiar route. - Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.
	Understanding the World		- Use all of their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. - Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. - Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.
Reception	Understanding the World		- Draw information from a simple map. - Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. - Explore the natural world around them. - Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.
ELG	Understanding the World	People, Culture and Communities	- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps. - Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.
		The Natural World	- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. - Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons.