

## FINAL DRAFT

### COLLATON ST. MARY C. OF E. (V.A.) PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### POLICY STATEMENT ON GEOGRAPHY

##### Rationale

Geography explores the relationships between the Earth and its peoples through the study of place, space and environment. It creates a unique bridge between the Humanities and the Natural Sciences and it has a distinctive role in the curriculum, integrating and synthesising contributions from other subjects.

##### Purpose

The teaching of and learning opportunities for Geography in our school, which develop from this policy, will help our children by:

- ♦ stimulating the interest in their surroundings and in the variety of physical and human conditions on the Earth's surface
- ♦ increasing their knowledge and understanding of physical, economic and social processes which influence the development of areas and landscapes
- ♦ fostering their sense of wonder at the beauty of the world around them
- ♦ helping them to develop an informed concern about the quality of the environment and the future of the human habitat, so that their sense of responsibility for the care of the Earth and its people is enhanced

##### Guidelines

We will develop Geography in the curriculum in the following ways by including:

- ♦ studies from a balanced variety of scales from school, local, regional, national, continental to global examples
- ♦ a recognition of the importance of change in the past and present, but particularly of the possible future consequences of present actions
- ♦ an approach through enquiry-based learning which may lead to decision making and action
- ♦ a wide range of skills including mapwork, fieldwork and IT skills in particular
- ♦ the construction of a framework of Geographical knowledge, including that of locations and places around the world
- ♦ an introduction to the basic concepts and themes of Physical, Human and Environmental Geography using skills and real places
- ♦ opportunities for the potential links between Geography and other subjects and cross curricular themes, dimensions and skills. We will especially consider the development of literacy across the curriculum giving it real contexts in which to flourish.
- ♦ opportunities to develop an understanding of the children's own attitudes and values in relation to Geographical issues and places in their social, cultural and political contexts and a sensitivity towards the attitudes and values of others
- ♦ it will be accessible to all abilities, aptitudes, sexes and be part of our curriculum from 4 year olds onwards

Geography will be organised as a continuing, blocked or linked subject, having equal weighting to other foundation subjects. However planned, it will enable children to make progress in the subject, as defined in the level descriptions in the National Curriculum for the subject.

1992 policy, revised 1997.

Review 2001