St Theresa's Catholic Primary School

"to do the little things well"

Geography Curriculum Map 2026-2027

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
EYFS	**Barnaby Bear 'Local Area Album'** Through Barnaby bear children look at issues including housing, school, transport, shopping, leisure, religion and recycling.		**Barnaby Bear 'Investigate the World'** This unit aims to help pupils to widen their knowledge and understanding of the world and develop their geographical skills through the use of maps, atlases and globes.
Year 1	**'Our Street'** Enquiry led investigation into land use near our school. In this theme children will learn simple fieldwork skills, including observation and recording, to study the geography of their school and its grounds. They will also investigate the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment, i.e. the housing estate, local amenities and leisure. The key questions and activities start with the school and its grounds before moving out into the immediate neighbourhood.		**The UK** Instigation into the United Kingdom and to develop a variety of geographical skills through fieldwork, mapping and recording the weather. The children learn to name, locate and identify the characteristics of the four countries of the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) as well as their capital cities (London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast) and its surrounding seas (North Sea, English Channel, Irish Sea and St George's Channel.)
Year 2	**'Our Town'** A local scale enquiry with field work into the physical features of St Helens. Building on their work in year 1, the children will investigate the key human and physical features and the location of the Town of St Helens looking at land use and weather patterns over time.		**The Coast/Australia** Investigation into coastal environments including coastal processes and protection. In this theme, children will learn about a small area within a contrasting non-European country (Australia) as well as the nearby coastline. Although exploring a small area in detail, the children will also be made aware of its broader geographical context, such as the country/continent in which it is located. Children will explore similarities and differences between the small area being studied and areas with which they are more familiar.
Year 3	**Liverpool** Enquiry into the physical and human geography of the capital and how it has changed through time Geography of Liverpool to apply and revise our map skills. Using their map skills, they will investigate ways to get to the city. They will enhance their knowledge of physical and human features, including key landmarks, by looking at the city of Liverpool and the city region. They will use OS maps of the area and compare them to other map		**Mountains, volcanoes and Earthquakes** Investigation into mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. Children will learn about the highest mountain on the planet Mount Everest. They will then compare this to UK Mountain ranges focusing on Mountains in the Lake district. As part of a visit, the children will identify the key topographical features of The Lake District National Park (namely, hills, mountains, lakes and forests) and explore the numerous land uses,

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	types, including Google Maps. This unit will also provide children with revision opportunities looking at capital cities and rivers in the UK and Europe.	including leisure, tourism and farming. Children will begin to explore different types of vegetation. Upon their return, they will compare The Lake District with their own locality and other previously studied areas.
Year 4	**North America** This unit introduces the continents of North America through their physical and human features. Pupils explore climate, land use, and economic activity across different regions, and plan a journey that connects a range of contrasting places. The children will look at different settlements and the functions of these settlements, and they will use a map to locate different states in the USA. Children will also look at some hazard-prone areas and the advantages and disadvantages of living there.	**Europe and The Mediterranean** This unit introduces Europe as a continent of many countries, climates and landscapes. Pupils use maps to locate countries and cities, explore physical and human features, and consider how people live, travel and visit different parts of Europe. The children will then explore northern Italy through its landscapes, transport, cities and villages. Pupils learn about everyday life and tourism in the region and compare it with their own local area using maps, images and geographical vocabulary.
Year 5	**Rivers** Pupils will learn that rivers and river systems, are dynamic; changing the landscape in visible and at times dramatic ways. In this theme, children learn about rivers and the water cycle through a study of the River Mersey. Children will learn that rivers have sources, channels, tributaries and mouths, that they receive water from a wide area and that most flow eventually into a lake or the sea. They will learn that human activity affects, and is influenced by, rivers. They will identify other key rivers in the UK and the world. They will also link their learning about rivers to other bodies of water such as reservoirs, lakes, seas and oceans.	**South America** In this theme, children locate and study the geography of the Amazon Basin which is the region of South America drained by the Amazon River and its tributaries. As most of the region is covered by tropical rainforest (biome) they will learn about this and other rainforests of the world. Children will start to learn how the future of tropical rainforests and other ecosystems is closely connected to human lives and lifestyles. The children will learn about the types of food, minerals, energy and trade/industry generated from this part of the world. They will also explore settlement sizes and transport links. They will then learn about the wider country of Brazil in which most of the Amazon rainforest is located.
Year 6	**Global Trade** Investigation into global trade focusing on food distribution and Fairtrade. In this theme, children will have the opportunity to explore the origins of common foods they consume. They will identify some foods which are grown locally, nationally and others that are imported to our local ports of Runcorn and Liverpool. They will also explore the idea of 'food miles' and use maps, globes and atlases to see how far their food has travelled and which oceans it may have crossed.	**Biomes** In this unit, we will learn about biomes and explore the big question: Are all biomes equally fragile? We will understand what a biome is and how climate shapes different ecosystems around the world. We will study where biomes are located and learn about the key features of the tundra, taiga and grasslands, including how plants and animals adapt to survive there. We will also examine how human activity and climate change affect biomes and consider how they can be protected. Throughout the unit, we will develop skills such as reading maps and climate graphs, comparing environments, explaining causes and effects, and writing an extended answer using evidence.