

# Geography Policy Document

## Black Firs School

### Introduction

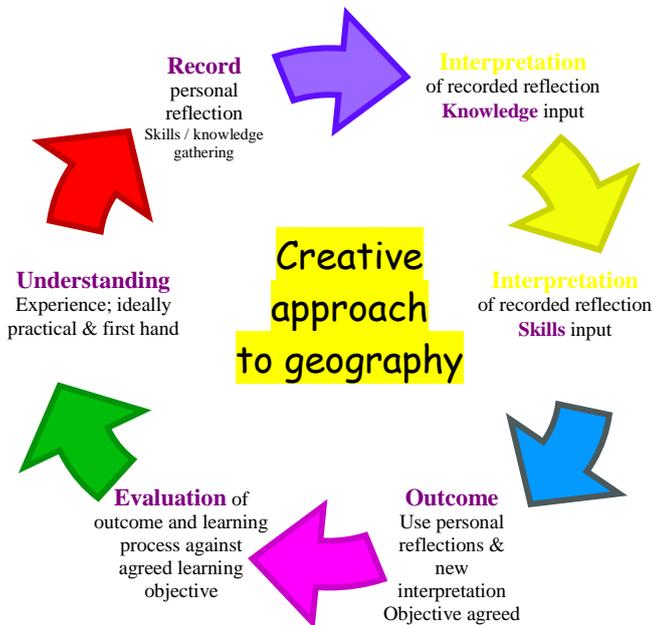
This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for teaching and learning geography at Black Firs School.

### Aims

Geography at Black Firs Primary School centres on  
the impact the environment has upon us  
the effect we have upon our environment

### Strategies for Teaching of Geography

At Black Firs we believe that for good learning to take place, children need to have sufficient knowledge, understanding and skills of the particular unit being studied. Below are models of the main knowledge, understanding and skills that take place through geography at Black Firs.



The teaching of geography will follow an enquiry approach. At Black Firs we work with a holistic, creative approach around a central theme for the term. The geography taught is closely linked to the main topic to keep it relevant for the children.

At Black Firs we are very aware that children need to ‘use & apply’ geographical understanding in everyday contexts. That we not only concentrate on the knowledge and skills, detailed in the National Curriculum, but that children have an opportunity to explore, experience and understand why geography is important in our lives. To encourage greater understanding and more creative communication, we are adopting the Schools creative process into our geography teaching.

### Progression

Progression at KS1 will be maintained through careful planning. The programme of study will gradually increase the breadth and depth of work undertaken. During KS2 concepts will become more complex as will the widening range of geographical skills.

KS1 children will gradually;

1. Broaden and deepen their knowledge and understanding of places and themes.
2. Be able to recognise and describe what places are like using appropriate geographical vocabulary.
3. Be expected to offer their own explanations for what they observe.
4. Become more able to make comparisons between places and geographical features.

In KS2 children will continue their development of the above plus:

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Date .....

Review Date .....

They will describe places with increasing accuracy and coherence. They will offer explanations for the characteristics of places. They will start to identify physical and human features and describe some of their effects. Gradually they will become able to apply geographical ideas learnt to other contexts. They will learn to acquire information from secondary sources as well as from first hand observation to investigate aspects of local and more distant physical and human environment.

### **Special Needs**

Please refer to School Policy Document on Special Needs.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Please refer to the School Aims and Statement on Equal Opportunities.

### **Feedback to children**

This is referred to in the School Marking Policy.

### **Assessment**

Throughout the year formative assessment is used to guide the progress of individual children. It involves identifying each child's progress, determining what they have learned and what therefore should be the next stage of learning. The aim of the teacher will be to arrive at an all round judgement of the progress a child has made when writing annual reports. He/she will exercise professional judgement in establishing a best fit from the level descriptions at the end of each Key Stage.

### **Record Keeping**

Annual report to parents

Comments & targets in Studywork Books & own Teacher's records

Please refer to the school policy document on Record Keeping.

### **Reporting**

Reporting to parents is done on a termly basis at parent interviews. In addition an annual report is sent home in July.

### **Liaison with Secondary School Staff**

Discussion takes place between the staff of Congleton High School and Black Firs.

### **Role of Co-ordinator**

The curriculum co-ordinator has a crucial role in planning and monitoring the curriculum. Please refer to our document detailing the work and responsibilities of all curriculum co-ordinators.

### **Health and Safety**

See Health and Safety policy

### **Review**

The School policy for Geography reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body. The policy was approved at the Curriculum & Personnel sub-committee meeting of the Governing Body February 2006.

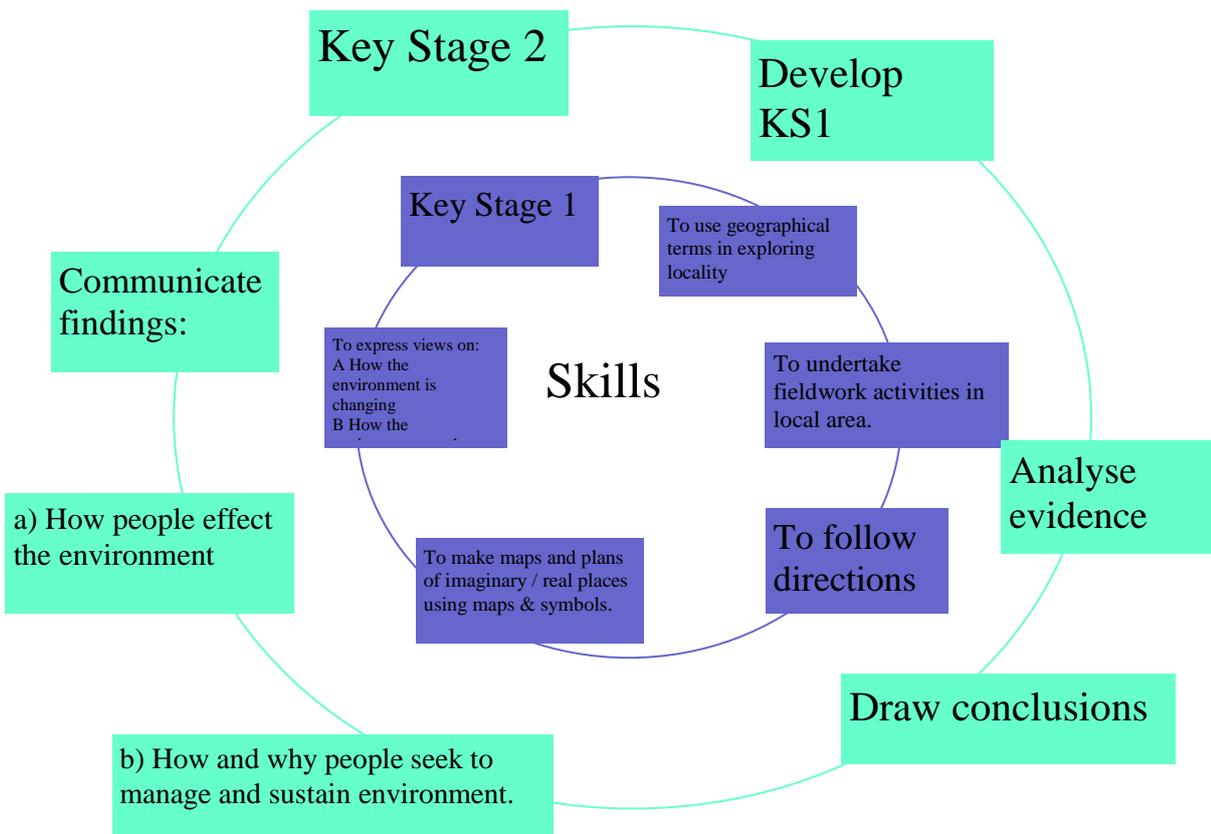
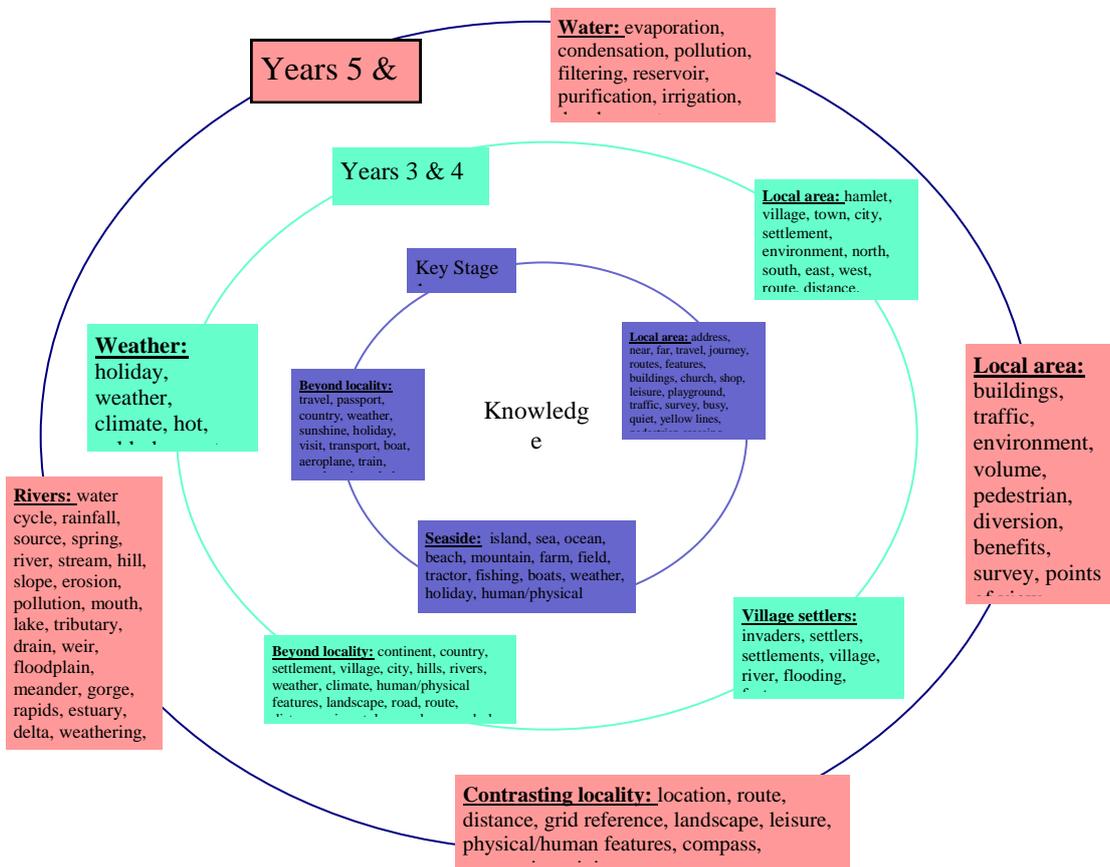
All staff will review the policy at the beginning of the School year 2006 and will present any suggested amendments to the Governors' for discussion at the next meeting.

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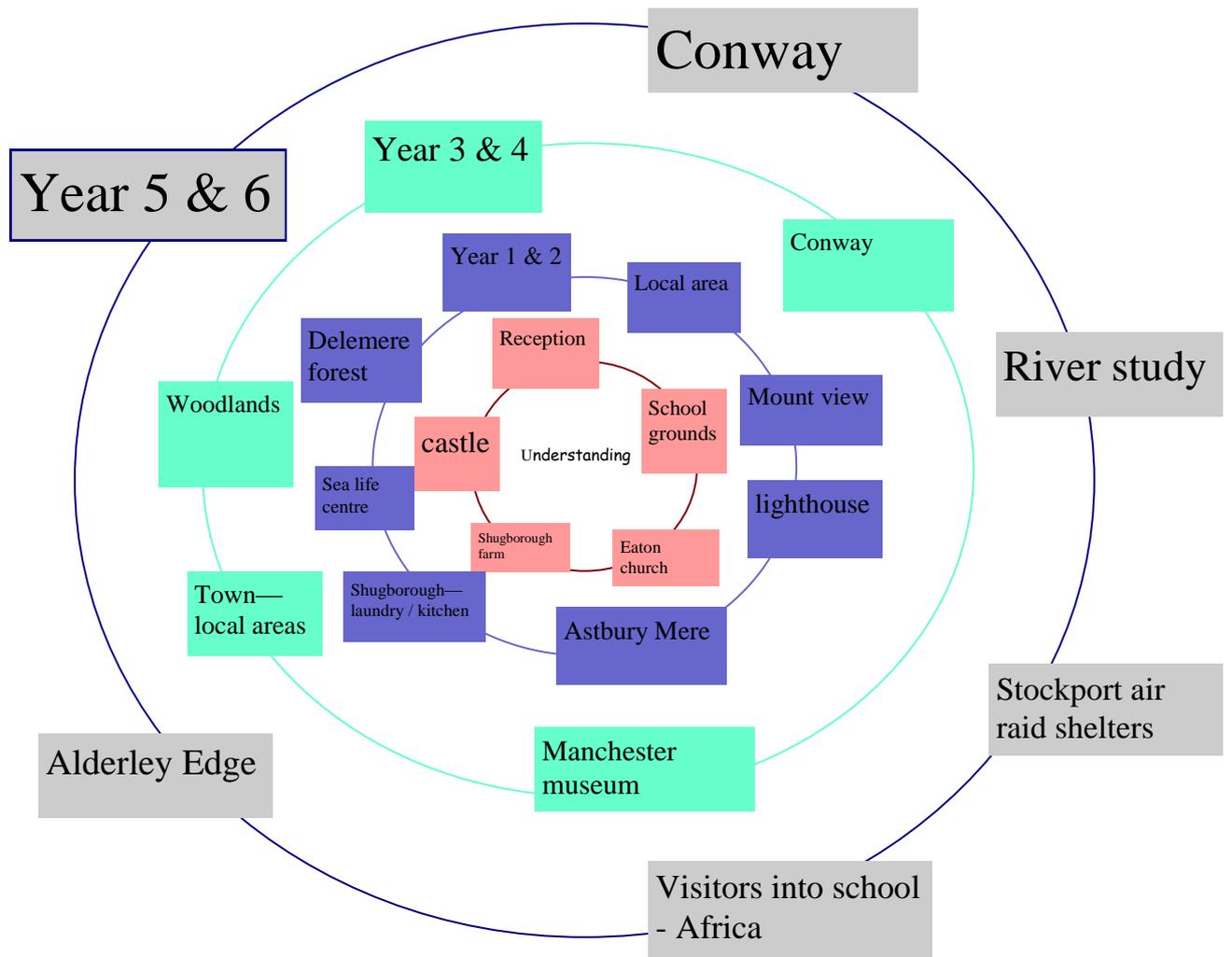


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