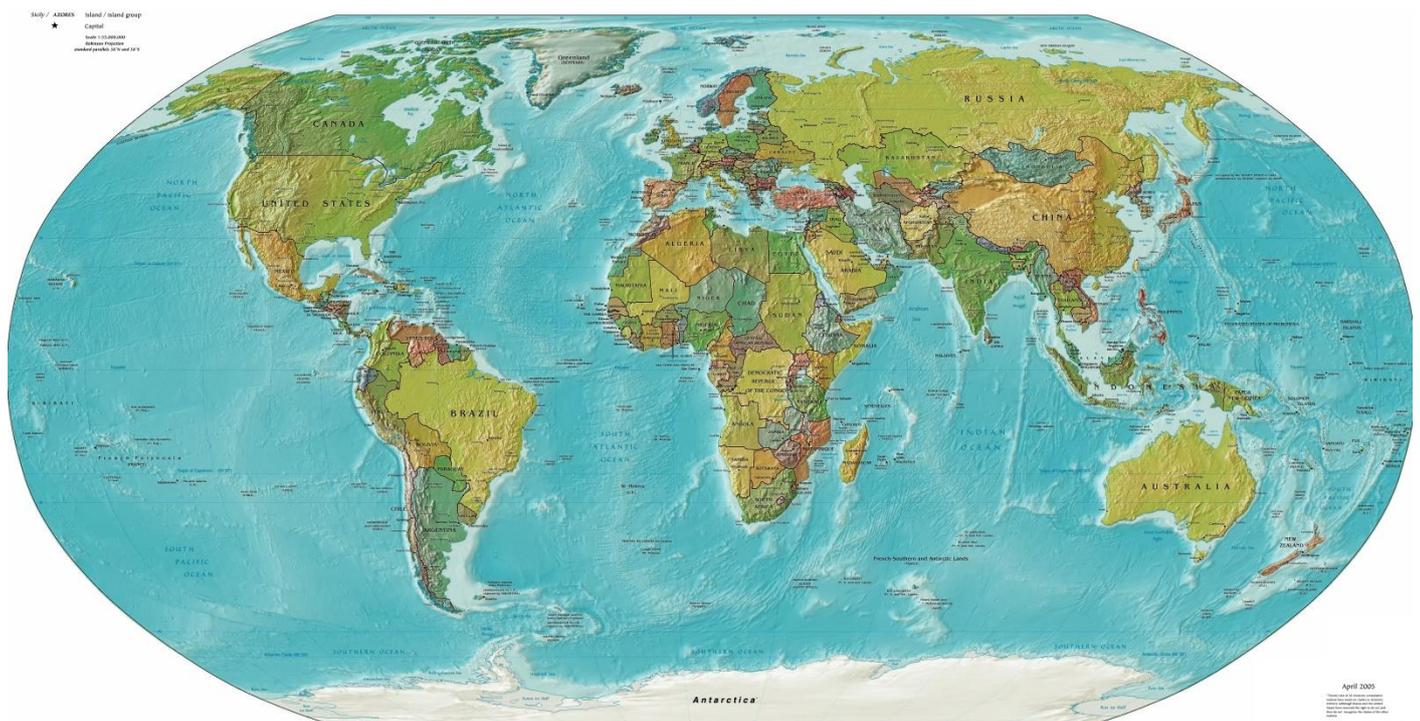


## Geography at Shaw

At Shaw, children are given the opportunity to explore the wonderful world around them in a geographical context. The wonderful grounds at Shaw act as a superb starting point for mapping, data collection and understanding direction. Children investigate the physical and human geography of their local area before looking at countries further afield. They will also be taught key geographical skills enabling them to develop their own geographical understanding further. The progression of geographical skills is clearly mapped out at Shaw ensuring children are given a broad and balanced geographical knowledge and understanding.



**WHY** do we teach this subject? (What does it add to the education of each child?)

Geography is fundamentally about understanding the planet we live on. At a Shaw School we want children to gain a growing awareness of their location on the planet, learn about and make connections with places that are increasingly distant from their home and gain an understanding of the idea of “Global Community.” The concept of “Eco Awareness” and looking after the Planet are

fundamental to our ethos. It is therefore vital that we develop a sense of “connectedness” within our children through their study of the subject.

We also want children to know the names of key Geographical locations and be able to place these on maps and globes. We want them to be able to explore the features of different localities through first hand experience or the use of a range of media and draw similarities and differences from their own experiences.

We also want children to begin to understand why certain locations appear as they do. This involves beginning to understand geographical process such as erosion and deposition and simple plate tectonics. It also encompasses environmental issues such as pollution.

We provide a range of trips and residential to contrasting localities to ensure that children who have rarely travelled beyond their immediate community can begin to broaden their horizons.

We want children to be curious about their World.

#### **WHAT** do we teach?

- Where certain places are and what they are like.
- That places are interconnected and interdependent.
- The names and simple details of the processes that shape our planet.
- The value of enquiry and fieldwork, including observation and questioning of places and processes in order to understand them better.

#### **What is our intended end-point? What should children know and be able to do on leaving Shaw School?**

- A secure understanding of where the places studied are and what they are like.
- A secure understanding of the ways in which places are interconnected and interdependent and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.
- An extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary.
- The ability to apply questioning skills and use effective analytical and presentational techniques.
- The ability to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain findings.
- The ability to use fieldwork skills
- A passion for Geography and a sense of curiosity to find out about the World and the people who live there.
- The ability to express well balanced opinions rooted in good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.