

PGQM Moderation Feedback: September 2022

School: Park End Primary, Middlesbrough

Moderator(s): Mark Preston and the National Moderation Team

The school has been awarded: Silver

Geography: notable aspects and strengths

Well done on a solid silver submission. The subject leader is moving the subject and staff forward effectively; leadership is clear and there is evidence that:

- The school has a structured vision for Geography and a keen focus on developing both pupils' knowledge of places in the world and an exploration of differences and similarities.
- Curriculum planning is considered well, and there is effective organisation which ensures that pupils build on what they have already learned.
- Quality teaching and learning, plus a interesting and engaging curriculum is in evidence. Progression is shown from year to year, with examples of work included in your portfolio.
- Relevant and involving topics, such as 'Beat the Street', 'Big Clean-Up' and 'IsportsWall', help to bring teaching and learning alive and ensure engagement from pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding.
- Important geographical skills (using maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping, using locational and directional language, using aerial photographs, devising maps, and using online Ordnance Survey maps) are all taught and evidenced well. It is good to see Digimaps being used by individual pupils across the key stages to carry out a range of activities.
- We note the difficulties resulting from Covid-19, but are pleased to see that you have still accessed the local area/environment.
- Exciting and engaging displays around the school celebrate Geography and help to raise the profile of the subject.
- Studies undertaken, such as 'Extreme Earth' in Years 3&4, and 'Biomes and Climates' in Years 5&6, give pupils opportunities to develop and build on their knowledge and understanding as the unit of work progresses in a fun and meaningful way, whilst also recapping prior learning.
- The professional support offered to non-specialists is well thought through offering a careful mixture of ideas, resources, knowledge and skills.
- Liaising and working alongside your Secondary counterpart is wonderful to note and can really strengthen those transition ties if that relationship can be embedded in your geography provision.

Geography: aspects to develop and strengthen

Thank you for this promising submission, and the next steps will be to maintain and sustain the level of silver achievement gained so far and use it to work towards gold level. The future priorities are clearly identified by yourself, and the subject is supported by the staff – this is valuable in ensuring that the subject will continue to thrive.

We will be interested to see how your curriculum develops as you plan to create more opportunities to ensure the pupils are exposed to as wide a range of diversity as possible, increasing their cultural capital and understanding of others that they share the world with.

There is only limited evidence of a deep comparison study of countries and continents as outlined in the LTP. Evidence of what happens in each location - at a scale comparable to the Middlesbrough area, the jobs people do, the physical landscape and any challenges the population face would have been good to evidence further.

In terms of enhancing your fieldwork programme, as you have noted in your development plans, look to access areas further afield; perhaps you would consider extending your fieldwork provision to include a clearer focus on geography with a physical geography element. What are the intended outcomes? What does progression look like? Great to see you plan to work alongside a Secondary fieldwork specialist!

It will be interesting to see how you can continue to develop mapping across school, especially to refine ICT usage for deeper impact.

It was a pleasure to review your application. It would be great if you could become further involved in the wider geography community and share your ideas and developments.

<https://www.geography.org.uk/Write-for-GA> This would help build upon and strengthen the silver level that you have clearly evidenced in your submission and kickstart the journey towards attaining the Gold Award next time!