



Primary Geography Quality Mark 2015

Gold award schools ‘lead the way in providing excellent and innovative geography’

The Primary Geography Quality Mark is seen as a key strategy for raising the quality of geography in primary schools and has been driving school improvement in geography since 2006. This year a total of fifty-one primary schools have achieved the Geographical Association’s **Primary Geography Quality Mark (PGQM) Award** at either Gold, Silver or Bronze Level.

At **Gold** level, the award is in recognition of the schools capacity to embed excellent and innovative geography throughout the school. In 2015 the successful Gold award PGQM schools are:

Brindishe Manor, Lewisham, London

Elstree School, Woolhampton, Berkshire

Herringthorpe Junior School, Herringthorpe, Rotherham

Springwood Primary School, Cardiff, Wales

St Andrews & St Marks CofE Junior School, Surbiton, Greater London

Two Rivers Special School, Tamworth, Staffs

Ysgol Esgob Morgan, St Asaph, Wales

In these schools, subject leaders influence the development of the subject more widely and show they are also leaders of primary geography beyond their own school. They ensure policies impact on pupil learning, are not afraid to take risks, and innovate and challenge to achieve progress in geography. They ensure pupils access and engage with high-quality, fieldwork experiences, real-life issues and relevant aspects of global learning. Crucially, these subject leaders ensure that geography is always underpinned by sound geographical enquiry across a range of places and scales; enabling pupils to think geographically and be better equipped for the world in which they live.

Since the PGQM launched in 2006, 492 Primary Geography Quality Marks have been achieved: this includes 24 who have achieved the Mark three times! This year we have seen a total of 6 schools achieve the Gold level, 25 the Silver level & 20 the Bronze level. The Geographical Association considers this to be a significant achievement!

Paula Owens, The Geographical Association project leader for the PGQM award says:

“We congratulate all schools and their subject leaders who have worked so hard to achieve this award. The National Moderation Team is always impressed by the high quality of the submissions and the work that has gone into ensuring that pupils have access to high-quality geography within a broad and balanced curriculum. When you have high-achieving ‘Outstanding’ schools who say that geography is an integral driver of their curriculum and schools in challenging contexts who explain how geography has helped to engage pupils and raise standards, it reminds us how powerful geography can be in knowledgeable hands.”

Each school that has achieved the Primary Geography Quality Award is actively working to raise the standards of geography teaching and learning for their pupils. Further information about the award can be accessed at:

www.geography.org.uk/eyprimary/primaryqualitymark/

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