

Geography

Geography is the study of how the natural and human worlds interact. As such it provokes and answers questions about all aspects of the world, using different scales of enquiry to view them from different perspectives. It develops knowledge of places and environments throughout the world and a range of investigative and problem solving skills both inside and outside the classroom. As such, it prepares pupils well for adult life and employment. Geography focuses on understanding and resolving issues about the environment and sustainable development as its key theme. Therefore, it is a subject that really explores how humans use their planet and how we may live in harmony with it in order to maximise our quality of life. It is also an important link between the natural and social sciences. As pupils study geography, they encounter different societies and cultures. This helps them realize the interdependence between nations. It inspires them to think about their own place in the world, their values, and their rights and responsibilities to other people and the environment.

What is studied at KS3

We have designed our KS3 curriculum to complement our curriculum at both Key Stages 4 and 5. It provides the students with the necessary skills they need for later study of Geography, at the same time as covering many topics that are not covered again later. This is to help reflect the very broad nature of the subject.

Topics covered are:

Year 7:

Our Place in the world (this topic covers all geographical skills which are not map based skills. For example, interpreting graphs or photographs)

Ordnance Survey Map Skills

Food Issues (at both local and global scales)

Weather and Climate

Coast

Year 8:

Fantastic Places (delivered mostly as a case studies of Svalbard)

Tectonics (including volcanoes, super volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis)

Development (Rich and poor countries, reasons for the gap in development and possible solutions to this gap)

Geographical Investigation (delivered as a 'how to' guide for later study. The subject of the investigation is microclimates)

Rainforests (characteristics, human life in the rainforest, causes of deforestation, solutions to deforestation)

Year 9:

Impossible Places (delivered as a series of case studies of places where it is difficult for humans to live including Las Vegas, the Mojave Desert, and Dubai)

Climate, Past, Present and Future

Population

Migration

Globalisation and Industrial Change (what globalisation is and what effects it is having upon places in both the rich and poor worlds)

Urban Studies (causes of urbanisation, issues facing urban areas, solutions to these issues)

What is studied at KS4

At KS4 we follow AQA.

Topics covered in Year 10:

The Challenge of Natural Hazards

Urban Issues and Challenges

The Living World

Physical Landscapes of the UK: Coast

Topics covered in Year 11:

Physical Landscapes of the UK: Rivers

The Challenge of Resource Management

The Changing Economic World

See <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/geography/specifications/AQA-8035-SP-2016.PDF> for more details.

What is studied at KS5

At KS5 we follow AQA.

Topics covered in Year 12:

Water and Carbon Cycle

Coastal Systems and Landscape

Changing Places

Global Systems and Governance

Topics covered in Year 13:

Hazards

Population and the Environment

See <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/geography/specifications/AQA-7037-SP-2016.PDF> for more details.