



YEAR 5-9 GEOGRAPHY 2025- 2026

Purpose of study

A high-quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. As pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Aims

The national curriculum for geography aims to ensure that all pupils:

- develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes
- understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time
- are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
- collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes
- interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

Attainment targets

By the end of Key Stage 3, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the programme of study.

Subject content

Pupils should consolidate and extend their knowledge of the world's major countries and their physical and human features. They should understand how geographical processes interact to create distinctive human and physical landscapes that change over time. In doing so, they should become aware of increasingly complex geographical systems in the world around them. They should develop greater competence in using geographical knowledge, approaches and concepts [such as models and theories] and geographical skills in analysing and interpreting different data sources. In this way pupils will continue to enrich their locational knowledge and spatial and environmental understanding.

	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Topic 1	The geography in Year 5 runs alongside the History as this is within the framework of the National curriculum. The History topics have to be covered chronologically. Atlas and map skills will be the main areas covered as the year unfolds.	What is Geography? A look at the 3 main branches of Geography and the overlap between them	Map Skills 2 A look at some more technical map skills, such as 6 figure grid references, field sketch, maps styles and scale.	Population Population growth, birth and death rates, distribution, population around the world, impact of population on the planet.	Development Different developmental groups, rich and poor world, measuring development, Malawi, Singapore and the Development Gap.
Topic 2	Cross curricular learning skills These will run alongside the History topic of the Maya - embedding Geography skills throughout.	Solar System and Geological time. How the solar system and Earth were formed. The length of 'Geological' time. Learn the Geological periods.	River study A study of the water cycle, drainage basins , river processes and flooding. As well as how humans use and influence river systems.	Coasts Waves and tides, waves at work, landforms created by waves, our interaction with the coast, the war against the sea.	From Rock to Soil The three rock groups, the rock cycle, rock types in the UK and Thailand, weathering.
Topic 3	Cross curricular learning skills These will run alongside the History topic of the Greeks - embedding Geography skills throughout.	Map Skills 1 Basic map skills, looking at information found on maps, including height and shape, grid references and symbols. An introduction to GIS mapping with Google Maps	Ecosystems Introduction to a range of ecosystems found on earth. Looking at the flora and fauna of the area	Urbanisation How towns and cities grow, urbanisation around the world, migration, living in urban areas, slums and shanty towns.	Map Reading Skills Plans, scales, OS symbols, grid references, simple maps and Ordnance Survey maps.
Topic 4	Research project This will be outlined later on in the year, based on current events and what will be practicable and engaging for students to study at that given time.	Africa - Early humans to now. A study of the history of humans on the continent, and our subsequent move across the globe. Finishing with a project looking at the vastness and diversity of Africa..	Africa - Ecosystems A project focussing on the ecosystems of Africa, celebrating the diversity of this giant continent.	Weather and Climate What weather is, measuring the weather, clouds and rain, air pressure, changes in the weather, differences between climate and weather, influences on the weather and climates around the world.	Earth's Resources Earth's natural resources and how we use them, water and its use, the growing water challenge, soil and desertification and oil for energy.
Topic 5				Asia What and where is Asia, countries and regions, physical features, population and biomes.	The Middle East Introduction to the Middle East, physical geography, climate and biome zones, people of the Middle East and the Arabian Peninsula.
Topic 6				China Physical geography, the rise of China, China's Southwest region, life in Chongqing, rivers and dams.	Plate Tectonics The Earth's structure, tectonic plates and plate boundaries, earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis and the danger zone.

Topic 7					<u>Russia</u> Introduction to Russia, physical geography, climate and biome zones, people of Russia and European Russia.
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