



Geography



Key Stage 3

The curriculum at KS3 has been written to instil a passion for geography whilst delivering the requirements of the National Curriculum. To this end, pupils work to develop their knowledge of the world and a contextual understanding of various global locations. They identify the defining characteristics of these areas, understand the processes that give rise to their key physical and human geographical features and learn how they interact with other areas on a local, national and international scale.

The programme of study at KS3 is as follows:

- Year 7 – Map skills, Development, China, Coasts and Passport to the World.
- Year 8 – Volcanoes and Earthquakes, Sustainable Living, Rivers, Africa and Threatened Environments.
- Year 9 – Tourism, Population, the Challenge of Weather and Climate and Globalisation.

To support their learning and to inspire their love of the subject and the world, for each year group there is a fieldtrip. Year 7 travel to Barmouth in Wales to investigate coastal features and management; Year 8 study river characteristics at Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire; and Year 9 travel to Castleton in the Peak District to develop their understanding of the tourism unit of work.

Key Stage 4

Exam board – AQA Geography A (9030)

- Paper One (37.5% of GCSE / 1hr 30mins written exam) – Physical Paper: Topic list – The Restless Earth, Water on the Land and The Coastal Zone.
- Paper Two (37.5% of GCSE / 1hr 30mins written exam) – Human Paper: Topic list – Population, Changing Urban Environments and Tourism
- Controlled Assessment (25% of GCSE / 20hr assessment) – Controlled Assessment: This is based on a three day residential visit to Snowdonia in Wales.

Two levels of entry:

- Higher Grades – A*- D (more extended answers)
- Foundation Grades – C-G (short, structured questions)

Website - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-a-9030>

Key Stage 5

Exam board – AQA (2030)

AS Level

- Unit 1 (70% of AS, 35% of A Level) – Physical and Human Geography: Topic list – Rivers, Coasts, Population and Energy.
- Unit 2 (30% of AS, 15% of A Level) – Geographical Skills: This is based on a six day residential visit to Arran in Scotland.

A2 Level

- Unit 3 (30% of A Level) – Contemporary Geographical Issues: Topic List – Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards, Challenges Facing Ecosystems, World Cities – Evolution or Revolution? And Development and Globalisation
- Unit 4 (20% of A Level) – Geography Fieldwork Investigation

Website - <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/a-level/geography-2030>

For further information, please contact Mr S Petrie, Curriculum Leader for Humanities