

Geography department

About us

We are lucky to have an experienced team within the department, including the Vice Principal for Teaching and Learning.

Mr Greenough - Head of Department

Miss Oxby - ITT Co-ordinator and 2nd In Geography

Miss Murphy-Corish - AVP and Teacher of Geography

Mr Clark - AVP and Teacher of Geography

Miss Atkinson - Teacher of Geography

Our lessons

All of our lessons are planned to a high standard, presented in a consistent format. Tasks are varied and are based around a mix of knowledge and skills to ensure students are able to articulate what the meaning actually means. Independent learning Zone tasks are planned around the lesson to ensure students have the chance to showcase their understanding.

Areas for development

Implementation of the new curriculum in Y7 and Y8 and prepare for Y9 next year.

Continue to develop the focus on skills in KS4

Continue to raise progress in KS4 and June exam results.

Our ambitious and inspiring curriculum for all

The Year 7 Autumn term secures foundational geographical knowledge before moving onto major physical and human processes occurring on Earth's Surface.

Year 8 builds on this by exploring human interactions with the natural world. Each unit examines reliance on the natural environment and the impacts of resource extraction as populations and wealth rise. We consider how sustainable our actions are, and what creative solutions might look like.

Year 9 units draws synoptic links across the curriculum. Units 1–4 explore global connectivity through the lenses of oceans (autumn) and economy and development (spring). The summer term brings the curriculum full circle back to UK geography, finishing with a final comparative fieldwork investigation drawing on knowledge and skills across the course.

In KS4, Students study the AQA GCSE Syllabus. In Y10 we study The Living World, The Challenge of natural Hazards, UK Physical Landscapes (Rivers and Coasts) and Urban Challenges. In Y11 we study The Changing Economic World, The Challenge of Resource Management and Geographical applications. This includes the students own fieldwork. Finally the pre-release topic is taught once it is released.

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Our curriculum intent

The intent of our Geography curriculum is to capture and encourage our students' curiosity and wonder about the World around them and the role they play in its sustainable future. This is achieved by exposing them to a diverse Geographical curriculum that both enhances their cultural capital and provides them with a solid foundation of topics.

Marking and feedback

Students are continually assessed informally in lessons using live marking.

Assessment in Y7 - Y8 - Live Marking during lessons. 1 marked essay question per unit and 3 x assessments per year.
Assessment at Y9 - Live marking during lessons and one Whole Class Feedback per unit. 2 x Assessment
Assessment at KS4 - Live marking during lessons and a whole class feedback one lesson in 5. End of unit exams with feedback. 1 x PPE in Y10, 2 x PPE in Y11

Quality assurance

Within the department we regularly QA teaching via department learning walks alongside department booklooks. Examples of good practice are then shared to build teaching within the department.

All exams at both KS3 and KS4 are moderated to ensure consistent marking across the department, and standardisation is carried out with all KS3 exams with senior leaders.

The department is also QA's half termly via 360 meetings with the senior leadership team to identify strengths and weaknesses, alongside annual Curriculum reviews

Curriculum enrichment

Duke of Edinburgh Award
KS3 Geography club

Intervention

Intervention is carried out through lesson 6 in Y11. Students are encouraged to attend and are grouped based on expected grades. Groups are assessed after PPE's

Home learning

Homework is project based at KS3. Each topic covered in lessons has a project students should complete over the half term. These are then handed in, with the best examples awarded points and put onto Facebook.

At KS4, all homework is done on GCSEpod. This is then checked weekly. Half termly prizes are available for those with the highest levels of engagement.