

### **Overview of Year 8 Geography Curriculum**

This is the second year in a three year course. Many of the concepts and skills introduced this year are revisited after being introduced in year seven and will be consolidated upon in year nine. We aim for the pupils to acquire knowledge, develop understanding, revision of and exposure to new skills and the development of positive attitudes to global issues.

#### **1. Economic Activities**

Pupils learn about patterns of economic activity in the UK and their impact. Pupils learn about Primary activities, how they affect the environment and then pupils will explore the physical and human factors influencing the type and pattern of farming in the UK. Pupils will then be introduced to Industrial Geography. The location of factories is investigated and how locations for factories have changed over time.

#### **2. Environmental Geography**

Environmental awareness and Sustainability are the key themes of this unit. The main themes are protecting wildlife and the environmental impact of different sources of energy. There is also the opportunity to conduct an environmental survey of our school.

#### **3. Population**

Pupils are introduced to population distribution and density at a National and International level. The reasons for population change are studied and migration is studied with particular reference to Mexico and USA.

#### **4. Developing Countries-Case study Kenya**

Pupils will carry out a detailed study of Kenya as an example of a developing country, they will use their skills to investigate Kenya's location, and it's distinctive character and the Physical and Human processes that have shaped the country. Pupils will learn how to evaluate a country's state of development using a variety of sources.

### **Homework**

Homework is set each week. The type of homework varies. In year 8 homework can be learning the distribution of farming on a UK map, researching a topic. Worksheets, which build on work learnt in class are often used. Learning of key geographical terms and revising for assessments is also encouraged for homework. The use of ICT and the Internet is encouraged in Geography as a means of improving knowledge and skills. As Geographical topics are often in the news pupils may be asked to watch news broadcasts or documentaries and read newspapers.

### **Examinations/Key assessments**

Pupils are assessed continually in geography at the end of each unit either in a formal assessment test or a designated piece of work. Six key pieces of work will be assessed throughout the year. In the case of an assessment test all pupils will be given advance notice and time to prepare for the test. The class teacher marks each test to a common mark scheme and these marks are converted to a percentage to allow for a comparison within and between classes. These will be marked in detail against National Curriculum Level Descriptors. Each pupil will be taught how to assess their own and other pupils' work to help them become more independent learners and to allow them to progress through the levels.

### **How Parents can help**

- Check that homework is recorded in your son's planner
- Check that this work is completed to the best of his ability
- Provide an atlas and coloured pencils to help him complete his homework
- Check that your son has a pen, pencil and a ruler for lessons
- Please encourage your son to use the library and research work on the internet

