

Overview of Year 7 Geography Curriculum

In year 7 the main focus is to build solid foundations for the next three years. 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. Map Skills:

An introduction of different types of map that pupils will meet at key stage 3. Pupils will learn how to interpret maps, using skills like direction and using the points of the compass, how to measure distance using a scale line, how to interpret map symbols, grid references, how height is shown and longitude and latitude.

2. Conservation:

Pupils study a range of conservation issues. These include: Sustainable development, recycling, endangered species and deforestation. They develop knowledge from the local area to the global community.

3. Volcanoes:

Pupils learn about the history of the earth and are introduced to the theory of plate tectonics. They then study the different types of volcanoes through a range of case studies; this is followed by each pupil constructing their own model volcano.

4. Food:

Pupils study the origins of the food they eat. They investigate the process that these foods take from farm to plate. Pupils finally look at global brands and the differing types of advertisement they use.

5. Weather:

Pupils learn about the British weather and how our weather systems are created. They investigate how the weather within all countries plays a major role with people's lives.

6. Wonderful World:

Pupils will undertake a summer project related to the World Cup. They will investigate the geography of the countries taking part and the continent of Africa.

Homework

Homework is set every two weeks, inline with the school's homework policy. The type of homework varies. In Year 7 homework can be learning places on a UK map, researching a topic, worksheets which build on class work, learning of key geographical terms and revising for assessments. 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 pupils 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