

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. Population:

Pupils are introduced to population distribution and density at a national and international level. The reasons for population changes are studied and migration is studied with particular reference to Poland and UK.

2. Energy & Pollution:

Pupils analyse the impact of a range of contemporary issues on a local, national in global scale. They study the role of pollution on the atmosphere; discuss the renewable and non-renewable resources debate and the potential effects of 'Global Warning'.

3. Crime:

Pupils learn about the geography of crime. They investigate patterns of crime in various scales, from local to global. Pupils also learn about how crime affects people and their families.

4. Football:

Pupils look at the sphere of influence of football clubs and their structure. They also look at the role of football clubs as a global brand and the marketing techniques they use. Pupils then analyse the reasons for the impacts of a football club moving to a new ground.

5. Coasts:

Pupils will learn how the powerful properties of the sea shape our coastlines. They will learn how the effects of the sea are so powerful that management activities need to be undertaken to protect areas for complete destruction.

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, from researching events to completing 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