

# Key Stage 3 Geography Curriculum Overview

## Year 7 Topics

### 1. What is Geography?

- Introduction to the discipline of geography, exploring its importance and relevance.
- Key concepts such as location, place, human and physical geography.
- Skills development in observation and inquiry.

### 2. Raging Rivers

- Study of river systems, including the water cycle, river features, and the role of rivers in shaping landscapes.
- Exploration of river management, flood risks, and human interaction with rivers.

### 3. Global Fashion

- Examination of the global fashion industry and its geographical implications.
- Topics include sourcing, production, and the cultural significance of fashion in different regions.

### 4. Map Skills

- Development of essential map reading and interpretation skills.
- Introduction to various types of maps, including physical, political, and thematic maps.
- Use of grid references, scale, and symbols.

### 5. UK Weather

- Overview of the UK's weather patterns and climate zones.
- Understanding of weather forecasting and its impact on daily life.
- Investigation of local climate using fieldwork on school grounds.

### 6 China

- Overview of China's physical geography.
- Understanding of how this affects the human geography of China.
- Investigation of resource exploitation in China.

## Year 8 Topics

### 1. Geomorphology

- Study of landforms and the processes that shape the Earth's surface.
- Focus on erosion, weathering, and the role of tectonic activity in landscape formation. To include soil formation processes and local fieldwork around school site

### 2. Population

- Examination of global population trends, demographics, and migration patterns.
- Analysis of population distribution and the challenges of overpopulation and urbanization.

### 3. Coasts

- Exploration of coastal environments, processes of erosion, deposition, and landform creation.
- Discussion of coastal management and the impact of human activity on coastal areas.

### 4. Urban Geography

- Investigation of urbanization, city development, and the challenges facing urban areas.
- Topics include urban planning, transport, and the social and economic issues within cities.

### 5. Geography of Russia

- Overview of Russia's physical geography.
- Understanding of how this affects the human geography of Russia.
- Investigation of resource exploitation in Russia.

## Year 9 Topics

### 1. Volcanoes and Earthquakes

- Study of tectonic processes and their impact on landscapes and human activity.
- Exploration of the causes and effects of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, including case studies.

### 2. Tropical Cyclones

- Examination of the formation, characteristics, and impacts of tropical cyclones.
- Discussion of preparedness, response strategies, and climate change implications.

### 3. Development

- Analysis of global development indicators and the disparities between different regions.
- Exploration of sustainable development and the role of aid and trade in improving living standards.

### 4. Rainforests and Ecosystems

- Study of rainforest ecosystems, biodiversity, and the importance of conservation.
- Investigation of human impacts on rainforests, including deforestation and climate change.

## Curriculum Goals

The Key Stage 3 Geography curriculum aims to develop students' geographical skills and understanding of the world. Through engaging topics and practical fieldwork opportunities around the school vicinity, students will build a solid foundation in both human and physical geography, preparing them for more advanced studies in the subject. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, inquiry-based learning, and the application of geographical knowledge to real-world issues.

## Key Stage 4 Geography Curriculum Overview (AQA Specification)

The Key Stage 4 Geography curriculum follows the AQA specification, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of human and physical geography. The curriculum is structured around key themes and geographical skills, emphasizing real-world application and inquiry-based learning.

### Paper 1: Physical Geography

#### 1. The Challenge of Natural Hazards

- Study of tectonic hazards (earthquakes, volcanoes) and meteorological hazards (tropical storms).
- Investigation of the causes, impacts, and management strategies for natural hazards.

#### 2. The Living World

- Exploration of ecosystems, including tropical rainforests and cold environments.
- Focus on biodiversity, food chains, and the importance of sustainable management.

#### 3. Physical Landscapes in the UK

- Examination of coastal and river landscapes, including landform development and processes.
- Discussion on human impact and management strategies for these environments.

### Paper 2: Human Geography

#### 1. Urban Issues and Challenges

- Analysis of urbanization and its effects on cities, including opportunities and challenges.
- Case studies of urban areas, focusing on issues such as housing, transport, and sustainability.

#### 2. The Changing Economic World

- Exploration of global development, including indicators of development and economic change.
- Focus on the impact of globalization and the role of trade, aid, and investment.

#### 3. Resource Management

- Study of food, water, and energy resources, including distribution, consumption, and sustainability.
- Investigation of challenges related to food resource management and strategies for sustainable use.

## Fieldwork and Skills

- Geographical Skills
- Development of essential skills, including map reading, data interpretation, and fieldwork methodologies.
- Emphasis on inquiry-based learning through practical fieldwork investigations.
- 2 days of compulsory fieldwork to Salford and Hornsea
- Conducting field studies to apply geographical concepts in real-world contexts, focusing on both physical and human geography.

## Curriculum Goals

The Key Stage 4 Geography curriculum aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand complex geographical issues. By engaging with real-world scenarios, students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, preparing them for further education and responsible citizenship. The curriculum promotes awareness of global challenges and the interconnectedness of people and places, fostering informed and active participants in society.

## Key Stage 5 Geography Curriculum Overview (AQA Specification)

The Key Stage 5 Geography curriculum, following the AQA specification, provides students with an in-depth understanding of complex geographical concepts and contemporary issues. This curriculum emphasizes critical analysis, fieldwork, and independent research, preparing students for higher education and future careers in geography and related fields.

### Physical Geography

#### 1. Coasts

- Examination of coastal processes, landforms, and management strategies.
- Study of human impacts on coastal environments and the sustainability of coastal development.
- Case studies of specific coastal regions and their unique challenges.

#### 2. Hazards

- Analysis of natural hazards, including tectonic, meteorological, and biological hazards.
- Investigation of the causes, impacts, and responses to hazards, with a focus on risk management and mitigation strategies.
- Evaluation of the role of human activity in increasing vulnerability to hazards.

#### 3. Carbon and Water Cycles

- Exploration of the global carbon and water cycles, including their significance in regulating climate and supporting ecosystems.
- Study of human impacts on these cycles, including land use changes, pollution, and climate change.
- Discussion of sustainable management practices and policies aimed at preserving these vital cycles.

### Human Geography

#### 1. Changing Places

- Investigation of how places change over time and the factors influencing these changes, including economic, social, and environmental aspects.
- Analysis of case studies that illustrate the significance of local identity and the impact of globalization on place-making.
- Exploration of the concepts of sense of place and belonging.

#### 2. Contemporary Urban Environments

- Study of urbanization trends and the characteristics of contemporary cities.
- Examination of urban challenges, such as housing, transportation, and environmental sustainability.
- Focus on urban regeneration and the role of policy in shaping urban spaces.

### 3. Global Governance

- Analysis of the structures and processes of global governance, including international organizations and treaties.
- Exploration of issues such as climate change, trade, and migration, and the role of global governance in addressing these challenges.
- Discussion of the effectiveness and limitations of global governance mechanisms.

### Fieldwork and Skills in preparation for the NEA which is worth 20% of the final grade

- Compulsory 4 days of fieldwork in Snowdonia and Hebden Bridge
- Engagement in fieldwork projects to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios, enhancing practical skills and data collection techniques.
- Emphasis on independent research, critical evaluation of data, and presentation of findings.
- Geographical Skills
- Development of advanced skills in data analysis, geographic information systems (GIS), and statistical techniques.
- Focus on synthesizing information and drawing informed conclusions based on evidence.

### Curriculum Goals

The Key Stage 5 Geography curriculum aims to develop students into informed, critical thinkers who understand the complexities of global issues and local places. By engaging with diverse topics and methodologies, students will be equipped to contribute meaningfully to discussions about sustainability, governance, and societal change, preparing them for future academic and professional endeavours in geography and beyond.