

Geography Department

Intent:

In Geography we aim to develop awareness of the world around us and the characteristics which make places across the world unique. We work to develop global citizens that have an awareness of world events and the impact that they have on our ever-changing world.

It is our intention to ensure that the Geography curriculum inspires students to be curious and have a fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching equips students with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

As students progress, their growing geographical knowledge helps them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the framework and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Within Geography we plan to challenge students' beliefs about the world we live in and encourage them to be inquisitive about the future of our planet. Our curriculum has been chosen to ensure students are equipped with knowledge about current issues facing humanity, while also ensuring students are taught the Geographical Skills they need for the future.

Implementation:

In Geography we use a range of different teaching and learning strategies to ensure all students are challenged, engaged and enjoy Geography lessons. Within lessons we use a wide range of different media such as interactive ICT lessons, decision making activities to encourage independent thinking and critical analysis, as well as using videos and documentaries to teach students about the fascinating world we live in. We regularly use newspaper articles and clips from news broadcasts to ensure students have a current and engaging Geography curriculum. There are a range of opportunities in lessons for students to develop map, graphical and statistical skills, and to formulate enquiry and argument.

Beyond the classroom:

Fieldwork is an integral part of the Geography Department and students have a range of opportunities to take part in off-site fieldwork. There are two compulsory days of fieldwork during years 10-11: one to look at Regeneration in Bristol and one to the River Frome to investigate changes along the course of a River. These link to the syllabus for Paper 1 and Paper 2 and are explicitly assessed in Paper 3. Year 12 participate in a residential trip to Boscastle to study flood risk and visit Gloucester to assess the impact of regeneration. Year 13 are required to carry out an independent investigation on a topic of their choice and visit a coastal location to carry out their fieldwork. This is 20% of their A Level.