

SUBJECT SPECIFIC INFORMATION
LEAD PRACTITIONER GEOGRAPHY

Background:

Geography is a thriving Curriculum Area within the school. As the Curriculum Area has become established, numbers have grown dramatically, to become one of the largest Curriculum Areas in the school. Geography offers classes from KS3 to KS5. We have a range of teachers working within the Curriculum Area from ITT, NQT to an Assistant Head teacher. We see good teaching and teachers as the cornerstone of a successful department and have fostered a very supportive, professional environment that allows all teachers to develop and feel confident.

Geography Curriculum Provision:

In Years 7 and 8, all classes are taught in set teaching groups, for four hours a fortnight. We have recently developed a new curriculum based around the changes to KS3 Geography. We aim to provide a broad knowledge base combined with a wide skill set. The work in years 7-8 is designed to lead directly into the GCSE work covered from year 9. Topics covered include various aspects of the UK, development and Africa, rivers and energy.

KS4 is taught over three years with 5 hours a fortnight in each year, students are taught in mixed ability groups. We currently offer the AQA syllabus. We have developed a range of units of work to match the new requirements of GCSE Geography, including the physical landscapes of the UK, the challenge of natural hazards and the changing economic world. We currently complete a 4 day fieldtrip every year to Cromer on the Norfolk coast. Each unit has two assessments to be completed and progress is recorded and analysed using the Go4 schools package.

KS5 follows the AQA syllabus. It is a popular option at sixth form. Units of work have recently been written to match the new requirements of the Geography A level course. We complete the physical units coastal systems and hazards and the human unit changing places in year 12. The remaining units are completed in year 13 including glacial landscapes and global governance. Fieldwork currently comprises of two day trips in year 12— an urban study across the central line and a psammosere study of Studland Bay. The remaining fieldwork is taken at Cromer, where students complete their own independent investigation.

Extra-Curricular:

The members of the Curriculum Area believe it is important to offer opportunities to consolidate and extend students' learning. Currently, there are a variety of extra-curricular activities which we are or have been associated with including Model United Nations, World Challenge and BBC school report. There are a variety of trips at KS3, KS4 and KS5; both day and residential, national and international that are run. We also enter several national competitions annually and run a series of extracurricular interventions for a range of students.