

Hutton Church of England Grammar
School and Sixth Form

Geography Curriculum Information, Intent and Map



Curriculum Vision

As a department our primary intent is to ensure students are able to interpret and understand the world around them, including the processes that mean the Earth is a dynamic and ever-changing environment. We want them to have passion for the world around them, an ability to “see” Geography everywhere they go and appreciate the awe and wonder of our wonderful planet.

Job 12:10 ‘In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.’

We feel it is vital to ensure a balance between the human, physical and environmental element of the subject. The subject is a wide-ranging mix of elements from economic and political systems to the geomorphological process that shape our world. This incorporates the study of global cultures, societies and ethics helping students to develop a broad understanding of the world and consequentially a better tolerance for its peoples. Students are encouraged and guided to be critical, collaborative and motivated to challenge and stretch themselves and those around them.

The curriculum provides opportunities for a wide range of skills, applicable to not just the study of the subject but also to life beyond the classroom. Development of these skills which are both knowledge and skills based enable the students to understand key geographical concepts. We endeavour to produce Geographers who are articulate and able to communicate using a wide range of subject specific and academic vocabulary. Equally, students learn how to investigate the themes studied through the interpretation of statistics and the application of numeracy skills. The Geography curriculum is designed to foster an understanding in the students of the world around them, a tolerance of and an appreciation for the differences within it, within an atmosphere of rigour and challenge.

Acts 17:24 ‘The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands.’

Geography Programmes of Study: Key Stage 3 National Curriculum in England Purpose of Study

A high-quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils 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 pupils progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help 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 frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth’s features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

Aims

The national curriculum for Geography aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.

- Understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- Are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
 - Collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes.
 - Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
 - Communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

Attainment Targets

By the end of key stage 3, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the programme of study.

Subject Content in Key Stage 3

Pupils should consolidate and extend their knowledge of the world's major countries and their physical and human features. They should understand how geographical processes interact to create distinctive human and physical landscapes that change over time. In doing so, they should become aware of increasingly complex geographical systems in the world around them. They should develop greater competence in using geographical knowledge, approaches and concepts and geographical skills in analysing and interpreting different data sources.

In this way pupils will continue to enrich their locational knowledge and spatial and environmental understanding.

Pupils should be taught:

Locational knowledge

- Extend their locational knowledge and deepen their spatial awareness of the world's countries using maps of the world to focus on Africa, Russia, Asia (including China and India), and the Middle East, focusing on their environmental regions, including polar and hot deserts, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities Place Knowledge.
- Understand geographical similarities, differences and links between places through the study of human and physical geography of a region within Africa, and of a region within Asia Human and physical geography.
- Understand, through the use of detailed place-based exemplars at a variety of scales, the key processes in:
 - Physical geography relating to: geological timescales and plate tectonics; rocks, weathering and soils; weather and climate, including the change in climate from the Ice Age to the present; and glaciation, hydrology and coasts
 - human geography relating to: population and urbanisation; international development; economic activity in the primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary sectors; and the use of natural resources

- understand how human and physical processes interact to influence, and change landscapes, environments and the climate; and how human activity relies on effective functioning of natural systems

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- build on their knowledge of globes, maps and atlases and apply and develop this knowledge routinely in the classroom and in the field
- interpret Ordnance Survey maps in the classroom and the field, including using grid references and scale, topographical and other thematic mapping, and aerial and satellite photographs
- use Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to view, analyse and interpret places and data
- use fieldwork in contrasting locations to collect, analyse and draw conclusions from geographical data, using multiple sources of increasingly complex information.

Geography — Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

Aims of the Course

At Key Stage 4 pupils continue their study of Geography to build a deeper understanding of the world and the processes that shape it. The course encourages students to think critically about people, places and environments at a variety of scales. Through the study of both physical and human geography students will:

- develop secure knowledge of key geographical concepts, places and processes;
- apply and extend geographical skills including map interpretation, data analysis and fieldwork;
- make connections between geographical issues and wider social, economic and environmental problems;
- enhance their ability to communicate balanced and informed judgements about real-world issues.

Course Overview

Qualification

GCSE Geography is studied across Years 10 and 11 and is assessed entirely through written examination at the end of Year 11. All pupils at Hutton will study either Geography or History as part of their Key Stage 4 curriculum.

What You Will Study

Geography at Key Stage 4 builds on the knowledge and skills developed at Key Stage 3 and applies them to more complex global and local issues. Students will explore both physical landscapes and processes and human environments and societies, linking core geographical ideas to current challenges faced by communities around the world. Topics include:

- the dynamics of natural environments and physical systems;
- human settlement patterns and urban issues;

- how people interact with and impact the environment;
- sustainable development and contemporary geographical challenges.

Fieldwork is an important part of the GCSE Geography experience. Pupils learn how to plan, conduct and evaluate geographical investigations, using real-world data to support their understanding.

How Geography Is Taught

The course emphasises a balance between acquiring core geographical knowledge and developing genuine geographical skills. Lessons include investigation work, map and data analysis, case studies and discussion of topical issues. Students are also supported to engage with current affairs and to develop analytical writing through extended responses and practical enquiry tasks.

Assessment

Assessment for GCSE Geography is by written examinations at the end of Year 11. Papers typically test:

- knowledge and understanding of physical and human geography.
- application of geographical skills such as interpreting maps, graphs and fieldwork data.
- ability to evaluate and make judgements about geographical issues and evidence.

Why Study Geography?

Geography offers an opportunity to make sense of the world and the complex challenges people and environments face today. Pupils develop analytical, research and communication skills that are valuable across many academic fields and future careers. Studying Geography supports progression to post-16 study in subjects such as A-level Geography, Environmental Science, Economics, Politics and more, and it is highly regarded for the wide range of transferable skills it builds.

Curriculum Map

Key Stage 3

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Half Term 1	Map Skills	Coasts	Tectonics
Half Term 2	Map Skills	Russia	Rivers
Half Term 3	Crime	Natural Disasters	Globalisation and Development
Half Term 4	Oceans	Biomes	Climate Change
Half Term 5	Africa	Glaciation	The Middle East
Half Term 6	Antarctica	Fieldwork	Rocks and Soils

Curriculum Map

Key Stage 4

We follow the Edexcel A GCSE Specification for Geography

	Year 10	Year 11
Half Term 1	Rivers	Changing Cities
Half Term 2	Coasts	Changing Cities
Half Term 3	Global Development	Weather and Climate
Half Term 4	Biomes	Weather and Climate
Half Term 5	Energy	Consolidation and Exam Preparation
Half Term 6	Fieldwork	GCSE Exams

Curriculum Map

Key Stage 5

We follow the Edexcel A A Level Specification for Geography

	Year 12	Year 13
Half Term 1	Regeneration Glaciation	Superpowers Water
Half Term 2	Regeneration Glaciation	Superpowers Water
Half Term 3	Globalisation Tectonics	National Identity Carbon
Half Term 4	Globalisation Tectonics	National Identity Carbon
Half Term 5	Fieldwork	Consolidation & Exam Preparation
Half Term 6	Fieldwork	A Level Exams