Curriculum Progression Pathway

GEOGRAPHY

Geography

Why is the study of Geography important?

Geography is the study of Earth's landscapes, peoples, places and environments. It is about the world in which we live and its study will make you question how and why the world is changing, globally and locally but also, how human actions can complicate and exacerbate natural changes and events. Geography will encourage you to think about the vast number of physical and human connections that exist within our world and about the pressures that the world's natural environments face. From Year 7 you will have the exciting opportunity to understand the natural processes that affect millions of people every year like volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis, how climate change is affecting populations and how population change is itself affecting different countries. Geography allows you to study a wide range of topics from across the globe and enables you to develop a wide range of skills that you will use to interpret the world around you and understand how we can make changes that will have implications on a variety of scales, from your local area to the whole world! Your study of geography will encourage you to think deeply and help you more effectively make links to other subjects like Science and Maths, great life skills that all universities and employers will appreciate.

Across your study you will explore Physical, Human and Environmental Geography. You will gain an understanding of why countries are at different levels of development and the impact that this has on the populations and environments of those countries. You will understand the physical and human factors that cause and contribute to natural disasters and the importance of natural resources, ecosystems and economic links around the world. Lessons will provide a wide range of opportunities for group work, role play, independent research and will encourage you to challenge yourself to suggest solutions to problems faced around the world. Geography is both creative and problem solving and your geography classroom will be brimming with opportunities to explore the world through images, film clips, stories of personal experiences and of course, maps! You will engage with questions such as 'Does aid help or hinder the development of lower income countries?' Why do people live in dangerous places? How can we be more environmentally friendly? Why are global businesses important? How can the quality of life of the poorest people in the world be improved? You will have the chance to ask questions about what is changing in the UK and about your local environment, to study it more closely by collecting data and analysing it to find out what it tells you. Seems challenging - you are going to love it! Geography will expand your mind!

What skills will the study of Geography teach you?

You are a citizen in this world and you need to know how to analyse a variety of sources of information, to be able to use data to identify key patterns. It will teach you to…

- interpret maps, diagrams, photographs and satellite images
- see patterns in our everyday lives and in the environments around us
- use Geographical Information Systems to explain geographic information
- collect primary data through fieldwork and about what secondary data is relevant and reliable
- present data using a wide variety of maps, graphs and diagrams
- understand how modelling can help us predict changes
- develop detailed written arguments that incorporate evidence
- solve problems
- use a variety of maths skills to help interpret geographical information and explain events and patterns
- recognise the strengths and weaknesses of data
- evaluate the usefulness of information
- assess the effectiveness of different data collection methods and data presentation techniques
- write strong arguments and use evidence to convince others of your viewpoint

What you will know and understand from your study of Geography?

- The basic physical systems that affect everyday life e.g. our weather and climate, plate tectonics, water and nutrient cycles, wind and atmospheric currents
- You will learn the location of places and the physical and cultural characteristics of different places
- You will improve your understanding of why our world is so interconnected and how technology is changing the geography of the planet
- We will understand the geography of the past and how Geography has played important roles in the way people develop their ideas to understand places and environments
- You will develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of a wide range and scale of places including your local area, your country and the world so that you can understand where places are, why events happen and what impact the location of these events might have
- You will be able to explain how the processes of human (e.g. urbanisation) and physical systems (e.g. weather and climate) have organised and sometimes changed the surface of the Earth
- You will understand and recognise the spatial organisation of population globally and in the UK
- You will use your understanding of spatial distributions at all scales — local and worldwide — in order to understand the complex connectivity of people and places
- You will learn to evaluate sensible evidence driven judgements about how people and the environment interact

- You will be able to apply your knowledge in order to suggest wise management decisions about how the planet's resources should be used
- You will gain a better understanding of global interdependence and how to become a better global citizen

How does your study of Geography support your study in other subjects?

Study of any subject in our curriculum takes full advantage of links with other subject areas- we term these as interdisciplinary links and we make the most of them because we know that deep learning requires the transference of knowledge and skills from one topic of learning to another. Once you can transfer your learning across topics and subject areas then you are really mastering what you know and how to apply your understanding and skills.

Geography touches on so many other subjects such as Science, where there are lots of overlaps with topics like ecosystems, tectonics and climate change. Our links with Maths include the use of graphical and statistical skills to analyse and interpret data so we can see patterns that we can explain. Geography shares the use and interpretation of texts and the development of written skills with English, and with history, the use of sources and the interrogation of them to consider whether they are reliable and how best to use them to back up our arguments. Geography is the perfect subject to link together the 'arts' with the sciences. You will learn methods of thinking and research that are widely applicable to other subject areas which will help to develop your thinking in all subjects.

How can you deepen your understanding of Geography?

Geography is the perfect subject to cover key geographic events such as: World Clean-up Day, World Fair Trade Day and Earth Day. The geography department offer lots of great opportunities for students to really engage with this fabulous subject. In KS3 we engage with competitions, quizzes and clubs like Culture Club. Across Key Stage 3 students engage in local fieldwork activities, we follow the amazing geographical events that occur in the news so that if there is an eruption, an earthquake or hurricane, you get the chance to watch it and learn about it. We link to global geographical days like Earth Day and to UK events like Fairtrade Fortnight. We encourage students to join the fieldwork opportunities that are on offer. We are passionate about students studying not only global geography but also local geography. For example we look at tourism in Redcar and flooding on the River Tees.

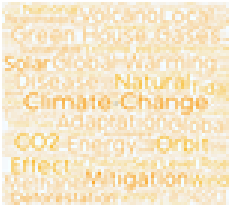
The revision website (geography.outwood.com) provides a rich resource of geography information for you to use to support your studies including revision guides, links to case studies or examples, key word glossaries and much more.

How is your Geography curriculum planned?

The Geography curriculum at Outwood Academy Redcar is planned around core knowledge, core concepts, geographical concepts and disciplinary knowledge.

1. **Core Knowledge** (e.g. countries, evidence from case studies and events)

2. **Core Concepts** - the five core concepts are defined below:

	**Sustainability –** Sustainability is about understanding how to meet the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations to meet their own needs. In practice this affects many aspects of geography. They must understand this concept and how it relates to long term aid or the use of renewable energies.
	**Climate Change -** Understanding the causes and potential consequences of global climate change on people and the environment are crucial in implementing strategies to reduce the threat of climate change in the future. This is a core concept that has become increasingly important in student's lives and it is vital that they have a good understanding of it. As well as studying a whole unit on climate change, they will also consider the concept through resource management, ecosystems, natural hazards and development.
	**Human/Physical interactions –** Geography fundamentally comprises human geography and physical geography. However, it is rare that these two sit or work in isolation of each other. This core concept is concerned with the interactions between the two, whether it is the impact of deforestation on the rainforest or of natural hazards on human settlements. It is found in every unit of study.

	**Physical processes** – The fundamental building blocks are the physical processes that shape our landscapes and the physical features that sit within them. Students should have a clear knowledge of erosion, transportation and deposition and the conditions that cause them. They should then be able to link this to particular features e.g. transportation and deposition forming a spit or erosion forming a waterfall. In addition, students should be aware of the processes of weathering and climatic processes that also impact tropical storms and extreme weather.
	**Development –** This concept ultimately underpins many of the issues that students will face in Y7 and 8 lessons. The ideas of poverty and inequality, the reasons behind them, impact of them and solutions to them will be covered. Students should have a clear understanding of quality of life and what it means in different parts of the world and how HICs are very different to LICs. How does this impact on a country's readiness for a natural hazard, or their ability to have food security? It affects population, migration and whether or not CO2 is being released at an increasing rate in a country. In addition, students should have a clear idea of the multiplier effect (both positive and negative) and how this clearly shows how a country develops.

3. **Geographical Concepts** (This is not an exhaustive list)

Landforms	Geology	Interdependence	Multiplier Effect	Adaptation	Cultural Awareness
Climate	Weather	Quality of Life	Standard of Living	Poverty	Inequality
Economics	Diversity	Management	Migration	Tourism	Hazard

4. **Disciplinary Knowledge** (e.g interpreting data, analysing trends and understanding mapwork)

KS3 needs to therefore be seen as an opportunity to build the core knowledge and understanding of the procedural concepts required, in order for our students to excel in Geography. These years are to be used not to repeat content being delivered at GCSE; but to allow us to build horizontal links to the GCSE topics, embedding within our students the core knowledge required to succeed in the discipline of Geography.

How do we ensure that your Geography curriculum is diverse?

Although it is important that students develop a deep understanding of Britain's physical and human geography, we understand that equal importance must be given to different cultures and locations. Diversity is prominent in the Geography curriculum in a variety of ways. For example, when studying 'Why is Our World Amazing?' In Year 7, students engage with locations and cultures from all around the world. From the Legend of Iguazu Falls to the impact of tourism of Kenya, this introductory unit brings great awareness to diversity. Similarly, in Year 8, students analyse the physical and human geography of Africa drawing their own conclusions on the core concepts of sustainability, climate change and development. There are numerous opportunities in the Geography curriculum for open discussions and greater understanding of a range of cultures.

How are you assessed in Geography?

Throughout the 5 year Geography course (3 years in KS3 and 2 years in GCSE if chosen) you are assessed using the following assessment objectives which ensure that you can cumulatively build your subject understanding in preparation for future GCSE and A Level study. There are assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars©. For KS3 these are termly and for KS4 these are every half term. For years 7, 8 and 9 we base our assessment on our subject mapping of the age related expectations across the curriculum, assessing students' performance at their current stage of study against expectation. At GCSE in years 10 and 11 we make informed predictions informed by our holistic assessment of their progress against the key assessment objectives and their aspirational GCSE targets.

Key Assessment Objectives

AO1: Knowledge

- Demonstrating knowledge of locations, places, processes and environments at different scales. Question types could include: describe, give, define, outline or name

AO2: Understanding

- Demonstrates geographical understanding of concepts and interrelationships in relation to places, environments and processes. Question types could include: explain why, outline the reasons for, compare.

AO3: Application

- Apply knowledge and understanding in a new context
- Question types could include: interpret, analyse, evaluate and make a judgement or decision.

AO4: Skills

- Select, adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings.
- Question types could include: how many, describe, calculate, complete this graph to show, using figure 9…

What does studying Geography at KS4 look like?

At Outwood Academy Redcar, if you choose to study Geography, you will begin your 2 year GCSE qualification in Year 10. The exam board is AQA. The subject content is split into four units: 3.1 Living with the physical environment, 3.2 Challenges in the human environment, 3.3 Geographical applications and 3.4 Geographical skills. Students

undertake two geographical enquiries (Redcar Beach and Talbot Road, Middlesbrough) each of which includes the use of primary data collected as part of a fieldwork exercise. The course is 100% examination with three exam papers at the end of Year 11. There is a range of support available inside and outside of the classroom, including free revision guides, enrichments, and access to resources on geography.outwood.com.

How can Geography support your future?

We offer the study of GCSE and we encourage your continued study in this fantastic subject, yet we know that choice and personal interest are important aspects of worthy study. Whether you have continued your study of geography into GCSE or A level or not you will have gained access to this enriching subject and its study will have taught you to think differently and deeply. The very fact that Geography develops such a wide range of transferable skills such as analysis, interpretation and the use of statistical techniques to explore a wide range of data will help your future applications be they for colleges, universities, apprenticeships or employment. Geography is offered at most prestigious universities either as a single honours or a joint honours subject studied alongside other disciplines e.g. BA Geography and Economics, Geography and Sociology, Geography and Management (University of Leeds), Social Sciences including Geography (Liberal Arts Degree at University of Durham). Students of geography will usually continue to study physical and human aspects of the subject but you can then opt for units that particularly interest you. The study of Geography can be a springboard into a huge range of career choices because of the transferable skills you will develop. Students who study geography are among the most employable people and according to the UKs higher education statistics, geography graduates are among the least likely to be unemployed after their degree. Of specific note are the analytical and IT based Geographical skills that geography students develop.

Careers that the study of Geography supports				
Financial Services	Environmental Law	Engineering	Travel & Tourism	International Aid Work
International Relations	Data Analyst	Retail Sector	GIS Officer	Event Planner

GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM PROGRESSION PATHWAY AT OUTWOOD ACADEMY REDCAR

	Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
Year 7	Why is our world amazing?	Why is our world amazing?	Why are Ecosystems so different?	Why are Ecosystems so different?	Is there a development gap?	Is there a development gap?

Year 8	How Risky are Natural Hazards?	How diverse is Africa?	Is Asia the most diverse and dynamic continent in the world?	Will I live to 100?	How am I linked to climate change?	How does water shape our land?
Year 9	How wild is our weather?	Is Tourism a Blessing or a Curse?	Is Russia a Prisoner of Geography?	How does ice change the world?	Why is the Middle East an important region?	How has industry shaped the heart of Teesside?
Year 10 (AQA)	Unit 1: Living World	Unit 2: Resource Management	Unit 1: Natural Hazards and Tectonics	Unit 2: Urban Issues	Unit 1: Weather Hazards and Climate Change	Unit 1: Rivers Unit 3: Human Fieldwork
Year 11 (AQA)	Unit 1: Coasts	Unit 3: Physical Fieldwork Unit 2: Economic Change	Unit 2: Economic Change	Unit 3: Issues Evaluation	Unit 3: Unseen Fieldwork	Revision