

BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Geography

Q How many specialist Geography teachers are there at Bishop Challoner?

A We currently have 6 subject specialists employed at our school.

Q Do students go on trips in Geography?

A Yes, we feel that taking students out of the classroom is important for the successful delivery of our Geography curriculum. Trip highlights include the Natural History museum (Year 7), Lapworth Museum (Year 9) Carding Mill Valley (Year 10), Longbridge (Year 11) Dorset coast (Year 12) and Birmingham University (Year 13).

In Year 10 / 11 students have the opportunity to go on an international residential trip to the country of Iceland.

Q How successful is the Geography department at GCSE?

A Students at Bishop Challoner perform well-above the national average in Geography at GCSE. In 2019 we had a department progress score of (0.74) and in 2020 a progress score of (0.55).

Q Which topics do you cover in your Geography curriculum?

A We have taken a 'place' based approach to our Key Stage 3 curriculum. This means students develop geographical knowledge and understanding whilst being able to relate important geographical theories and concepts to the real world. For example, in Year 7 students learn about the local Geography of Birmingham and the United Kingdom and then begin to relate the things they have learnt to other parts of the world such as China and the Middle East. We teach an equal balance of both human and physical Geography.

Q Are there any after school clubs in Geography?

A Yes, every Thursday we run Geography club after school. Students are also always welcome to stay behind after school to complete homework with the support of their class teachers.

Q How much homework is set in Geography?

A At Key Stage 3 students have homework set once every two weeks. At Key Stage 4 and 5 students will receive homework once a week.

Q Does the department have a social media account?

A Yes, please follow us on twitter [@BCGeogDept](#) to see some of the latest things we have been doing in Geography.

Q How is technology used in Geography?

A We use a wealth of the latest technology when delivering our Geography curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to continuously develop their ICT skills in lessons, use Geographical Information Systems such as Google Earth and Arc GIS, complete online quizzes and even recently used virtual reality technology for students to be able to go on virtual field-trips.

Please contact Mr Mullins (Head of Geography) if you have any further questions

I.mullins@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk