

Subject: Geography

Curriculum Intent

Our geography curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity and a lifelong fascination with the world. We empower students to develop as skilled, critical thinkers who understand and respect the diversity of people, places, and environments across local, national, and global scales. Learners deepen their understanding of both human and physical geography and the complex interactions between them, building a firm foundation in essential threshold concepts.

Students explore the world through diverse geographical lenses and place-based learning, exploring globally significant regions such as the UK, Africa, Asia, Russia, and the Middle East. As they progress, students learn to identify complex synoptic links across topics, think critically about real-world issues, and independently analyse geographical challenges. This learner-centred approach enables students to seamlessly connect new knowledge with existing understanding.

To complement classroom learning, the geography department contributes to Riverside's EWC by offering a weekly after-school geography club and a variety of trips and visits to both nearby and distant places. Hands-on fieldwork experiences allow students to apply their classroom skills in real-life contexts, cultivate a strong sense of place, and connect directly with their local area. Ultimately, this comprehensive education equips all young geographers with the vital knowledge and transferable skills needed for their future careers.

Year 7 Topics

- Term 1
 - Where do people live and why?
 - What is climate?
 - What do people need to live?
- Term 2
 - Why is water so important?
 - How are populations changing?
 - Is Barking Riverside a sustainable settlement?
- Term 3
 - Why does the UK's weather vary?
 - What is the largest country in the world like?

Year 8 Topics

- Term 1
 - How do tectonics shape the Earth?
 - How do humans use the natural world?
- Term 2
 - Why are some countries more developed than others?
 - Exploring Earth's water
- Term 3
 - What has shaped the Middle East?
 - What is the largest country in the world like?

Year 9 Topics

- Term 1
 - How has globalisation changed the world?
 - What makes Africa so diverse?
 - Geography in real-life
- Term 2
 - UK in the 21st century
- Term 3
 - What evidence is there to suggest climate change is a natural process?

Year 10 topics

- Term 1
 - Urban Futures
 - Tectonic Hazards
- Term 2
 - Distinctive Landscapes
- Term 3
 - Human fieldwork: to what extent is the Greenwich Millennium Village a sustainable settlement?
 - Physical fieldwork: To what extent are the coastal management strategies at Walton-on-the-Naze successful?

Year 11 topics

- Term 1
 - Development
 - Atmospheric Hazards
- Term 2
 - Resource Security
 - Sustaining Ecosystems
- Term 3
 - Revision and exam practice

Year 12 Topics

- Term 1
 - Resource Security
 - Water and Carbon
- Term 2
 - Changing place
 - Coastal systems and Landscape
- Term 3
 - Changing place
 - Coastal systems and Landscape
 - Fieldwork skills/Non-Examination Assessment

Year 13 Topics

- Term 1
 - Global systems and global governance
 - Hazards
 - Non-Examination Assessment
- Term 2
 - Global systems and global governance
 - Hazards
- Term 3
 - Revision and Exam Practice

GCSE Specification Details and Assessment:

OCR GCSE (9–1) in Geography B (Geography for Enquiring Minds) specification

<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/207307-specification-accredited-gcse-geography-b-j384.pdf>

A Level Specification Details and Assessment: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/a-level/geography-7037/specification/specification-at-a-glance>