

Curriculum overview: Geography

Why do we study Geography at The Earls High School?

We study to see, identify and understand patterns in our world. We study people, place and space and their relationships and inter-relationships. We look to develop a greater understanding of the environment and opportunities for sustainable development.

What skills and knowledge do we anticipate students will have in this subject before they begin at The Earls High School?

We would expect students to have learned the following at KS2.

Locational knowledge

- Continents and oceans and locate world countries with Europe as a focus.
- UK: name and locate counties and cities.
- Use a latitude and longitude to locate places

Place knowledge

- Similarities and differences between places
- Human and Physical eg: regions in the UK, South America...

Human and Physical Geography

- Weather patterns
- Climate zones,
- Distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- Compass rose
- Locational knowledge and directional language
- Grid references
- 4 & 6 figure grid references
- observe, measure and record fieldwork opportunities

What skills and knowledge would we like students to have in this subject at the end of their time at The Earls High School?

Students will develop the following Geographical skills (particularly if studying GCSE):

- Effectively use data and sources through numeracy and statistics
- Effectively use a range of maps of varying scales and foci
- Identify patterns and processes
- Develop enquiry skills
- Develop a greater understanding of places with some being studied in greater

Year 7 Curriculum Map:

| AUTUMN TERM | SPRING TERM | SUMMER TERM |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Unit 1: Maps To learn about: The different types of map we use in Geography and how to use an Ordnance Survey map. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading task</i>- How to use maps <i>Writing task</i> - Write a set of instructions to use grid references. Key assessment: A class based test on map skills and an introduction to the makeup of a GCSE style assessment e.g. Describe, explain, label etc. Assessment conditions: A timed test under exam conditions.</p> | <p>Unit 4: River features and flooding To learn about: The different parts of a river system and what goes wrong when a river floods. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> – Information about specific floods. <i>Writing</i> – Teachers will set a task to support classroom learning. Key assessment: Two assessments: a test with short questions and then a longer activity to write a conclusion. Assessment conditions: Timed test under exam conditions for the</p> | <p>Unit 5: Economic sectors of the UK To learn about: How people earn a living in or country. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> - The decline of the Longbridge car factories <i>Writing</i> – Descriptions of different farm types. Key assessment: End of year exam – this falls near the end of the year. Assessment conditions: Exam, under exam conditions.</p> |
| <p>Unit 2: Geology To learn about: Geological time and the breakdown of rocks by weathering and erosion. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading task</i> – Teacher to prepare students for a lesson. <i>Writing task</i> – describing weathering at school. Key Assessment: Assessment based on knowledge of weathering and coastal erosion interlinking map skills from previous topic. Assessment conditions: Timed test in exam conditions</p> | <p>Unit 4: Population and settlements To learn about: The makeup of the UK’s population and how / where people live in the UK. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> - The story of the growth of urban areas in the UK. <i>Writing</i> – To be based on classroom learning. Key assessment: Individual, short answer questions on population and settlements. Assessment conditions: Timed test under exam conditions</p> | <p>Unit 6: The UK’s place in the world To learn about: How our country fits in terms of development and how we help other countries. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> – Reading news reports on migration or disasters that we help with. <i>Writing</i> – producing their own news report on a moral development issue. Key assessment: End of year exam at this point – this will be in the last half term of year 7. Assessment conditions: N/A</p> |
| <p>Unit 3: Coasts and Glaciation To learn about: Erosion applied to an environment, in this case, glaciated areas and the coastline. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading task</i> – reading about the Lake District area. <i>Writing task</i> – MindMap for the assessment on coasts. Key Assessment: An explanation question about a coastal feature. Assessment conditions: Written answer done in class.</p> | | |

Year 8 Curriculum Map:

| AUTUMN TERM | SPRING TERM | SUMMER TERM |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Unit 1: Population To learn about: The way populations grown and change. The strategies that governments have to deal with populations that grow too fast. Main home learning tasks <i>Reading task</i> - Research on China’s one Child Policy Key assessment: A class based exam question on the One Child Policy and China generally. Assessment conditions: A multiple choice timed test under exam conditions.</p> | <p>Unit 3: Climates and Biomes To learn about: The different climate zones in the world and the vegetation types that go with those climates. Specifically focussing on tundra and rainforest. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> – Information about deforestation <i>Writing</i> – At teachers discretion Key assessment: A short test on climates and biomes Assessment conditions: Timed test under exam conditions</p> | <p>Unit 5: Natural Hazards - Tectonics To learn about: The hazards that tectonic activity can cause. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> - The story of an earthquake <i>Writing</i> – Descriptions of the events surrounding the Kobe earthquake Key assessment: An explanation to answer a question on why people may find life difficult in Indonesia. Assessment conditions: Written work carried out in class. End of year exam at this point – This will be in the last half term of year 8.</p> |
| <p>Unit 2: Settlements and Economies To learn about: The way people live in megacities and the jobs they do to earn money. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading task</i> – reading newspaper reports on the collapse of the Primark factory in Bangladesh. <i>Writing task</i> – to develop ideas learnt in class Key Assessment: None</p> | <p>Unit 4: Natural Hazards - Weather To learn about: The hazards that extreme weather, such as hurricanes, can cause. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> - The story of Typhoon Haiyan <i>Writing</i> – Descriptions of the events surrounding Typhoon Haiyan Key assessment: Individual, short answer questions on tropical storms Assessment conditions: Timed test under exam conditions</p> | <p>Unit 5: The countries project To learn about: A country of their choice, in Asia, through independent study. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> – research on a country of their choice, reading web sites about their country etc. <i>Writing</i> – producing descriptions of things such as the landscape, climate, and tourist attractions etc. of their country. Key assessment: No assessment but prior to this there will be an end of year 8 exam.</p> |
| <p>Unit 3: Natural Resources To learn about: What natural resources are and the use of resources such as coal and water. Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading task</i> – reading about the Three Gorges Dam <i>Writing task</i> – Points for the assessment Key Assessment: Comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of two natural resources. Assessment conditions: Mixture of exam questioning with the introduction of an 8mark question</p> | | <p>Peer and Teacher assessed, assessment conditions: Written presentation on several weeks’ research. This also includes artefacts, food, photos and diagrams.</p> |

Year 9 Curriculum Map:

| AUTUMN TERM | SPRING TERM | SUMMER TERM |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Unit 1: The Middle East. To learn about: The location, biomes and resources of the Middle East.</p> <p>Main home learning tasks <i>Reading task</i> – Information about Deserts. <i>Writing task</i>- To compare vegetation adaptations in different biomes.</p> <p>Key assessment: Short and medium length answers to questions about biomes and countries of the Middle East.</p> <p>Assessment conditions: A timed test in class.</p> | <p>Unit 3a: Climates and Biomes of Africa and a study of the climate dependent primary economic sector e.g. the Cocoa industry. To learn about: The patterns of climate in Africa and what effect this has on the crops that can be grown. A study of the Cocoa industry – including Child labour.</p> <p>Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> – Information about child labour in the Cocoa industry. <i>Writing</i> – Notes about the climates of Africa.</p> <p>Unit 3b: Other key industries in Africa including the diamond and tourism industries To learn about: The use of child labour in the diamond mines and the inequality of wealth across Africa, including ways to solve that through tourism.</p> <p>Key assessments: Assessment covers economic sectors including the cocoa and diamond industries.</p> <p>Assessment conditions: Introduction of GCSE style assessment (8 mark) questions - timed under exam conditions.</p> | <p>Unit 4: Urban Issues in developing countries, including water supply, slums and countryside issues. To learn about: The issues for people living in developing countries in Africa.</p> <p>Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> - about improvements to the slums of Africa. <i>Writing</i> - about the issues in the Kibera slums.</p> <p>Key assessment: A timed test on the issues in developing countries.</p> <p>Assessment conditions: Timed Test.</p> |
| <p>Unit 2: Development in the Middle East. To learn about: What Development is and how developed the Middle East is.</p> <p>Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading task</i> – reading newspaper reports on problems in the Middle East. <i>Writing task</i> – Writing about development indicators.</p> <p>Key Assessments: A summary test on the Middle East countries.</p> <p>Assessment conditions: This will be done as a timed test under exam conditions.</p> | | <p>Unit 5: Skills in Geography. To learn about: The skills needed for GCSE Geography</p> <p>Main home learning tasks: <i>Reading</i> – exam answers – to look for improvements. <i>Writing</i> – exam answers to sample questions.</p> <p>Key assessment: Assess or evaluate question done in class.</p> <p>Assessment conditions: Class work.</p> |