



HEADLANDS SCHOOL
SINCE 1965

Geography Curriculum Overview

This overview document details what students will be studying in this subject area over the course of their time with us and the skills and knowledge they will be covering. Students will be formally assessed across the year and their progress and ATL (Attitude to Learning) will be reported home at the end of each term. Assessments will aim to assess the knowledge and skills a student has covered up to that point in their education, including the curriculum covered in the previous year/s.

Half term	02.09.25 - 23.10.25	03.11.25 - 19.12.25	05.01.26 - 13.02.26	23.02.26 - 26.03.26	13.04.26 - 22.05.26	01.06.26 - 17.07.26
	Autumn 1 - 8 weeks	Autumn 2 - 7 weeks	Spring 1 - 6 weeks	Spring 2 - 5 weeks	Summer 1 - 5 weeks	Summer 2 - 7 weeks
Year 7	<p>Geographical Skills</p> <p>What are the main categories of Geography?</p> <p>How can we use photographs to study the Geography of Place?</p> <p>Why are atlas skills important in Geography?</p> <p>How do you read an OS map?</p> <p>Symbols, scale, distance, height, grid references and landforms.</p> <p>How can we use data in our study of Geography?</p>	<p>Geology</p> <p>What is the rock cycle?</p> <p>How do the different types of rocks form?</p> <p>How do the characteristics of rocks influence human activity?</p> <p>How do humans use rocks for economic activity?</p> <p>How do rocks influence landform development in the UK?</p> <p>Peak District economic growth, tourism and limestone scenery study.</p>	<p>Changing World of Work</p> <p>What is economic activity?</p> <p>Why has the economic structure of the UK changed?</p> <p>What has happened to secondary industry in the UK?</p> <p>Why are tertiary and quaternary sectors growing?</p> <p>What factors influence industrial location?</p> <p>Why is modern industry changing locational influences?</p> <p>What is globalisation?</p> <p>How is globalisation changing industrial development?</p> <p>What are the negative impacts of traditional industries?</p>	<p>Landscapes - Rivers, Coasts and Glaciation</p> <p>How do rivers change as you move along its profile?</p> <p>What processes shape river landscapes?</p> <p>How do waterfalls and meanders form along rivers?</p> <p>What happens when the sea meets the land?</p> <p>How do coastal processes create landforms?</p> <p>How are our coastal communities under threat from natural processes?</p> <p>How does ice shape the land?</p> <p>What evidence is there for glaciation in the Lake District?</p>	<p>Tourism</p> <p>What is tourism?</p> <p>Why is tourism a growth industry?</p> <p>Where are the tourism hotspots?</p> <p>Impacts of tourism in the Lake District?</p> <p>Conflict and its management in national parks.</p> <p>Local tourism - Bridlington case study?</p> <p>The growth of package holidays.</p> <p>Long-haul tourism, the growth of tourism in Africa, causes, effects and management of tourism in Tunisia and Kenya.</p>	<p>Weather and Climate</p> <p>What is the difference between weather and climate?</p> <p>Why does Manchester get more rainfall than Bridlington?</p> <p>How does air pressure affect the weather?</p> <p>Why is the UK's weather so varied and changeable?</p> <p>How is the UK impacted by and how does it respond to weather hazards?</p> <p>How can we use our understanding of weather to carry out a fieldwork investigation?</p>
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Year 8	<p>Energy Resources</p> <p>How is global energy production and consumption changing?</p> <p>What are the fossil fuel issues?</p> <p>What are the benefits of renewable energy sources?</p>	<p>Climate Change</p> <p>What is climate change?</p> <p>What is the evidence for climate change?</p> <p>What is the greenhouse effect?</p>	<p>Challenging Development Issues</p> <p>What is development?</p> <p>What is the Brandt Line and why is it controversial?</p> <p>What do we mean by HDI?</p>	<p>Wild Weather</p> <p>What drives global weather systems?</p> <p>What are the causes, effects and responses to heatwaves and droughts?</p>	<p>Africa and the Middle East</p> <p>Where and what is Africa?</p> <p>What is Africa's physical geography like?</p> <p>What natural resources does Africa have?</p> <p>How have African countries developed?</p>	<p>Rural and urban Issues</p> <p>What factors influence the location of our settlements?</p> <p>Why do some settlements grow into global cities and others stay as small rural settlements.?</p>

	<p>Nuclear and fracking as alternative energy strategies.</p> <p>UK's changing energy mix. Located energy enquiries: Isle of Lewis, Australia, Iceland and China.</p> <p>Why do people protest fossil fuel energy use?</p> <p>What are the challenges of energy insecurity?</p> <p>What is the future for energy use?</p>	<p>How are human activities enhancing the natural greenhouse effect?</p> <p>What are the likely impacts of climate change? Locally, globally?</p> <p>Who are the biggest global contributors to CO₂ levels?</p> <p>What can individuals and corporations do to make a difference?</p> <p>Why are future predictions of the impacts varied?</p> <p>How can people adapt to the impacts of climate change?</p>	<p>How can we use a range of data points to analyse and compare countries' development levels?</p> <p>How developed is the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa?</p> <p>How developed is China?</p> <p>What development challenges face the UK?</p> <p>How can aid be used to tackle the impacts of economic inequalities?</p>	<p>How are people and environments under threat from wildfires?</p> <p>Australia wildfires case study.</p> <p>How do topical storms form? Typhoon Goni case study.</p> <p>How do tornadoes form? Oklahoma tornado case study.</p>	<p>What challenges have shaped the development of countries in Africa?</p> <p>Where and what is the Middle East?</p> <p>What is the Middle East's physical geography like?</p> <p>What are the Middle East's natural resources?</p> <p>How has the Middle East developed?</p> <p>What challenges have shaped the development of the Middle East?</p>	<p>What are the challenges and opportunities for people living in large urban areas?</p> <p>How can we ensure that our rural settlements and urban areas are sustainable in the future?</p>
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Year 9	<p><u>Ecosystems</u></p> <p>What is an ecosystem?</p> <p>Local small-scale ecosystems - fieldwork.</p> <p>Where are the world's major biomes?</p> <p>What factors influence their location?</p> <p>What small scale ecosystems can we investigate on our doorstep?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of tropical rainforests?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of hot deserts?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of savannah grasslands?</p>	<p><u>Conflict</u></p> <p>What is conflict?</p> <p>What are the main causes of conflict?</p> <p>How can development levels influence conflict?</p> <p>How can scarcity of resources lead to conflict?</p> <p>How can land and territories create conflict situations?</p> <p>How difficult is it to resolve conflict issues?</p>	<p><u>Tectonic Hazards</u></p> <p>What drives tectonic processes?</p> <p>What are the processes that cause volcanic eruptions?</p> <p>What are the impacts of and responses to volcanic eruptions?</p> <p>What are the processes that cause earthquakes and tsunamis?</p> <p>What are the impacts of and responses to earthquakes and tsunamis?</p> <p>Why do people live in active tectonic hazard zones?</p>	<p><u>Population and Migration</u></p> <p>Where does everyone live and why?</p> <p>How and why are populations changing?</p> <p>How can we describe the structure of a population?</p> <p>Can we control population size? France and China policy development.</p> <p>Why do people migrate?</p> <p>Where do people migrate to?</p> <p>What are the impacts of migration?</p>	<p><u>Our Planet Under Threat</u></p> <p>What are the threats to the world's tropical rainforests?</p> <p>What are the threats to the world's oceans?</p> <p>Why are the world's hot deserts at risk of spreading?</p> <p>How can the threats to our planet be managed effectively?</p> <p>What are the issues with successful management of our planet and its environment?</p>	<p><u>NIC Development and Urbanisation</u></p> <p>Where are the world's most rapidly developing economies?</p> <p>What factors are supporting rapid economic development of some historically poorer countries?</p> <p>Why is India one of the most successful global economies at present?</p> <p>What is the impact of rapid economic growth within India?</p> <p>What are the challenges of dealing with rapid urbanisation caused by industrialisation?</p> <p>How can governments respond to the challenges of slum developments in major global cities?</p>

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Year 10	<p><u>Distinctive UK Landscapes</u> What characteristics make a landscape distinctive? How do human activities affect physical landscapes? How can human activities in distinctive landscapes be managed to reduce their impacts?</p> <p><u>Coastal Landscapes (including Physical Fieldwork)</u> How do processes change the physical landscape to create coastal landforms and landscapes? How do geology, climate/weather events and human activity influence the rate of change on coastlines?</p>	<p><u>River Landscapes</u> How do processes change the physical landscape to create river landforms? How does the landscape and landforms of a river change as you move from the upper to lower course?</p> <p><u>Drainage Basins and their management</u> What physical processes affect stores and flows in drainage basins? What factors can create a situation where rivers flood?</p>	<p><u>Rural-Urban Continuum</u> How are rural and urban areas linked? Sphere of influence, counter-urbanisation, commuting. How are rural areas changing? Challenges (causes and impacts of poverty, deprivation, depopulation) Sustainability (solutions to minimise the challenges).</p> <p><u>Population and Urban Change</u> What are the causes and consequences of population change in the UK? What are the challenges facing UK towns and cities? How do we develop sustainable urban areas? How and why is retail changing in the UK?</p>	<p><u>Global Cities</u> What are the global patterns of urbanisation? What factors combine to create a global city? How are they connected to the rest of the world? What are the causes and consequences of urbanisation in Mumbai?</p> <p>What can be done to alleviate some of the challenges of rapid urbanisation in NIC & LIC cities?</p> <p>What can be done to alleviate some of the challenges facing London as a global city?</p> <p><u>Human Fieldwork</u></p>	<p><u>Tectonic Landscapes and Hazards</u> What is the structure of the Earth and how does it influence tectonic processes? How do tectonic processes work together to create landform features? What are the impacts of tectonic processes? How might the risks associated with tectonic hazards be reduced?</p>	<p><u>Social Development Issues</u> How is social development measured? What challenges face social development in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia? What are the healthcare issues in sub-Saharan Africa? How can social development issues be monitored and successfully tackled?</p>
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Year 11	<p><u>Climate Change, Weather and Hazards</u> What is the evidence for climate change? What are the causes of climate change? What are the causes and consequences of two weather hazards? What factors create variations in weather and climate in the UK?</p>	<p><u>Ecosystems</u> Where are large-scale ecosystems found? What are the key processes of ecosystems at different scales? How do people use ecosystems and environments? How do human activities modify processes and interactions within ecosystems? How can ecosystems be managed sustainably?</p>	<p><u>Economic Development</u> What are the global patterns of economic development? How is economic development measured? What are the causes and consequences of uneven development at the global scale? What are the responses to uneven development at the global scale?</p>	<p><u>Resource Issues</u> How and why is the demand for water changing? Are water resources being managed sustainably?</p> <p><u>Regional Inequality</u> What are the patterns of economic development in one economically developing country? What are the causes and consequences of regional patterns of economic development in the UK? How can regional inequalities in the UK be reduced?</p>	<p><u>Revision for Final Exams</u></p>	

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Year 12	<p><u>Coastal Landscapes (including Fieldwork)</u></p> <p>How can coastal landscapes be viewed as systems? How are coastal landforms developed? How do coastal landforms evolve over time as climate changes? How does human activity cause change within coastal landscapes?</p> <p><u>Changing Spaces, Making Places (incl. Fieldwork)</u></p> <p>What's in a place? How do we understand place? How does economic change influence patterns of social inequality in places? Who are the players that influence economic change in places? How are places created through placemaking processes?</p>	<p><u>Earth's Life Support Systems</u></p> <p>How important is water and carbon to life on Earth? How do water and carbon cycles operate in contrasting locations? How much change occurs over time in the water and carbon cycles? To what extent are the water and carbon cycles linked?</p> <p><u>Global Migration</u></p> <p>What are the contemporary patterns of global migration? Why has migration become increasingly complex? What are the issues associated with unequal flows of global migration?</p>	<p><u>Human Rights</u></p> <p>What is meant by human rights? What are the variations in women's rights? What are the strategies for global governance of human rights? To what extent has intervention in human rights contributed to development?</p> <p><u>Fieldwork Visits and start of NEA Write-Up</u></p>			
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Year 13	<p><u>Climate Change</u></p> <p>How and why has climate changed in the geological past? How and why has the era of industrialisation affected global climate? Why is there a debate over climate change? In what ways can humans respond to climate change? Can an international response to climate change ever work?</p> <p><u>NEA Write-up</u></p>	<p><u>Hazardous Earth</u></p> <p>What is the evidence for continental drift and plate tectonics? What are the main hazards generated by volcanic activity? What are the main hazards generated by seismic activity? What are the implications of living in tectonically active locations? What measures are available to help people cope with living in tectonically active locations?</p> <p><u>NEA Write-up and Revision for Final Exams</u></p>	<p><u>Revision for Final Exams</u></p>			