



Humanities

- Geography
- History

Geography

Key Stage 3

Geography in Key Stage 3 aims to stimulate an interest in the wider world and the wide variety of human and physical environments that exist. It helps to provide knowledge and understanding of the major problems that lie ahead of us as global citizens, and allows students to develop their own ideas and responses to them.

In lessons we investigate a wide variety of topics based upon different places, and at different scales. Key Stage 3 geography starts with an introduction to Geography in Year 7 and runs through several Physical, Human and Environmental themes up to the end of Year 8. Pupils will learn about a new topic each half-term and will be assessed at the end of each topic. Homework is a vital part of the geography course and students will be given a wide variety of activities to complete.

Geography club will run on a weekly basis where pupils can participate and lead in geography and whole school projects depending on the interests of the geographers who attend, and current affairs.

Year 7 topics:

- Geographical Skills
- Weather and Climate
- Tectonics
- Population
- Development
- China

Year 8 topics:

- Rivers and flooding
- Rainforests/ecosystems;
- Coasts
- Settlement
- Migration
- Sustainability

All Year groups will study Geographical skills which will be embedded into the topics above.

Key Stage 4 Geography

Essential attributes, knowledge and skills

Although there is no specific requirement for prior knowledge in Geography, the GCSE course will build on the work already completed by students in previous years under the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum.

Students should have:

- An interest in finding out the causes and consequences of key events and people in the past;
- Ability to research independently;
- A willingness to work hard and complete homework regularly and to a good standard; and
- Good literacy level

Exam board

EDEXCEL A (9-1) <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-a-2016.html>

Students will be assessed via 3 exams which will cover a variety of physical and human topics. They must also do two contrasting field studies between Year 9 and Year 11. The Key Stage 4 geography course will be assessed in the following ways;

Paper 1: The Physical Environment

1 hour and 30 minutes

37.5% of the qualification

- Changing landscapes of the UK
- River landscapes and processes
- Coastal landscapes and processes
- Weather hazards and climate change
- Ecosystems, biodiversity and management

Paper 2: The Human Environment

1 hour and 30 minutes

37.5% of the qualification

- Changing cities
- Global development
- Resource management
- Water resource management

Paper 3: Geographical Investigations: Fieldwork and UK Challenges

1 hour and 30 minutes

25% of the qualification

- Geographical investigations (fieldwork) – physical environments – coasts
- Geographical investigations (fieldwork) – human environments – inner urban area
- UK Challenges

Geography students will be expected to use a wide range of skills from identifying, analysing, evaluating geographical questions and issues, to interpretative and communication skills in each of the exams outlined above.

History

Key Stage 3

History at Key Stage 3 is an exciting course and we aim to inspire an interest in, and love of, the past. Our aim is to enthuse students so they will continue to read and enjoy history throughout their adult lives and can comprehend how History impacts on contemporary issues and has an effect on our own everyday lives.

The course aims to give pupils a deeper understanding and appreciation for some of the most significant events and time periods in British and global history.

Pupils will learn a wide variety of skills that will enable them to 'think like a historian' in Key Stage 3, allowing them to use these analytical skills in later life and indeed Key Stage 4 History, should it be an option they choose.

The following topics will be covered in Key Stage 3 History.

Year 7

- The Skeleton Mystery
- The Roman Empire
- Norman England
- Life in the Middle Ages
- The Black Death
- The Crusades

Year 8

- The Tudors
- WW1
- The Industrial Revolution
- Native America
- WW2
- The Holocaust

Embedded into the Key Stage 3 topics are the essential components of History: change and continuity, chronology, significance, diversity and empathy, causation and consequence, source and Historical enquiry.

Homework is a vital part of the History course and students will be given a wide variety of activities to complete on a weekly basis.

Key Stage 4 History

Essential attributes, knowledge and skills

Although there is no specific requirement for prior knowledge in History, the GCSE course will build on the work already completed by students in previous years under the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum.

Students should have:

- An interest in finding out the causes and consequences of key events and people in the past;
- Ability to research independently;
- A willingness to work hard and complete homework regularly and to a good standard; and
- Good literacy level

Exam board – EDEXCEL (9-1)

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

Students will be assessed via 3 exams which will cover a variety of topics, underpinned by historical enquiry and source analysis. They will be internally assessed at the end of every half-term to monitor progress and will receive homework on a weekly basis. The Key Stage 4 History course prepares pupils for their final examinations in Year 11 which will be assessed in the following ways;

Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment

1 hour and 15 minutes

30% of the qualification

- c1250–c1500: Medicine in medieval England
- c1500–c1700: The Medical Renaissance in England

- c1700–c1900: Medicine in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Britain
- c1900–present: Medicine in modern Britain
- The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches

Paper 2: Period study and British depth study

1 hour and 45 minutes

40% of the qualification

- Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 1060–66
- William I in power: securing the kingdom, 1066–87
- Norman England, 1066–88

AND

- The early settlement of the West, c1835–c1862
- Development of the plains, c1862–c1876
- Conflicts and conquest, c1876–c1895

Paper 3: Modern depth study

1 hour and 20 minutes

30% of the qualification

- The Weimar Republic 1918–29
- Hitler's rise to power, 1919–33
- Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933–39
- Life in Nazi Germany, 1933–39

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