

Geography Key Information

“The world must come together to confront climate change. There is little scientific dispute that if we do nothing, we will face more drought, famine and mass displacement that will fuel more conflict for decades.” - Barack Obama

Geography is being taught to our students so that they have a greater understanding of the world around them and how they can affect their environment. All pupils learn a wide variety of topics within physical and human geography.

The geography department at St Joseph’s is made up of a highly experienced, dedicated team of geographers who love to teach all aspects of geography. Mrs L Harrison (Head of Department) and Mrs K Williams and Mrs A Dove have degrees in Geography and have taught for over 50 years when combined.

Course Followed/Exam board

KS3- Building on the knowledge and skills learned in KS2 of the physical and human geographical themes and concepts and to build knowledge and understanding to enable students to be prepared for their GCSE exams and their future lives, and an appreciation of the natural world created by God. Pupils should consolidate and extend their knowledge of the world’s major countries and their physical and human features. They should understand how geographical processes interact to create distinctive human and physical landscapes that change over time. In doing so, they should become aware of increasingly complex geographical systems in the world around them. They should develop greater competence in using geographical knowledge, approaches and concepts [such as models and theories] and geographical skills in analysing and interpreting different data sources. In this way pupils will continue to enrich their locational knowledge and spatial and environmental understanding and their impact on the wider world.

KS4 – Focuses on the knowledge and geographical skills needed to be successful in their final year exams. The content follows the OCR-B scheme of work and includes all the case studies needed for Paper 1, 2 and 3.

Topics covered in each year group

Year 7

Key Topics

Autumn 1: Unit 1 – Being a Great Geographer

Autumn 2: Unit 2 – Map Skills

Spring 1: Unit 3 – Rocks and Soils

Spring 2: Unit 4 - Rivers

Summer 1: Unit 5 - Africa

Summer 2: Unit 6 – Glaciers

Year 8

Key Topics

Autumn 1: Unit 1 – Population

Autumn 2: Unit 2 – Weather

Spring 1: Unit 3 – Urbanisation

Spring 2: Unit 4 – Climate Change

Summer 1: Unit 5 - Coasts

Summer 2: Unit 6 – Asia

Year 9

Key Topics

Autumn 1: Unit 1 – International Development

Autumn 2: Unit 2 – Plate Tectonics

Spring 1: Unit 3 – Earth's Resources

Spring 2: Unit 4 – Earning a Living

Summer 1: Unit 5 - Ecosystems

Summer 2: Unit 6 – Ecosystems

Year 10

Key Topics

Autumn 1: Unit 1 – Resource Reliance

Autumn 2: Unit 2 – Global Hazards - Tectonics

Spring 1: Unit 3 – Global Hazards - Weather
Spring 2: Unit 4 – The UK in the 21st Century
Summer 1: Unit 5 – Distinctive Landscapes
Summer 2: Unit 6 – Physical Fieldwork (Rivers)

Year 11 (2026/27)

Autumn 1: Unit 1 – Changing Climates
Autumn 2: Unit 2 – Urban Futures
Spring 1: Unit 3 – Human Fieldwork (Urban)
Spring 2: Unit 4 – Dynamic Development
Summer 1: Unit 5 – Revision and Exams
Summer 2: Unit 6 – Revision and Exams

Year 11 - Current (2025/26)

Key Topics

Autumn 1: Unit 1 – Urban Futures
Autumn 2: Unit 2 – Dynamic Development
Spring 1: Unit 3 – UK in the 21st Century
Spring 2: Unit 4 – Human Fieldwork (Urban)
Summer 1: Unit 5 – Resource Reliance
Summer 2: Unit 6 – Revision

Skills the students will develop

Throughout KS3 and KS4 students will learn a variety of skills. These include, map, numeracy, English and decision-making skills.

Future careers and vocations

The government has recently announced the new ‘500 green jobs’ linked to climate change and making our world a better place. In the future there will be many jobs/ careers that help the environment and address current issues of food, water, pollution

and many other resources that we will need in the future. It is vitally important that students realise their impact on the planet and investigate the number of Geography related careers there are in the local and national area. This is done both in lessons and in careers events that take place throughout the year.

Contacts

Head of Department: Linzi Harrison

Email address: linzi.harrison@sjchs.uk

Enrichment

Fieldtrips

Low stakes knowledge quizzes

Do Now and Exit Ticket question slides

Low stakes knowledge and spelling

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Revision club

Reading

Reading for pleasure

National Geographic

Geography – A Childrens Encyclopaedia

Academic Reading

National Geographic website/ magazine

Geog.1,2,3 at KS3

GCSE geography 9-1 OCR B

Reading for parents

National Geographic website/ Magazine

BBC News Newspapers

Resources

Websites

BBC Bitesize

Kerboodle

National Geographic

BBC News/ Weather

Seneca

Multimedia

BBC Bitesize

BBC Documentaries on BBC iPlayer

David Attenborough - Frozen Planet

Simon Reeves - Travels

Steve Backshall - Adventures in Nature

Local, national and international news

Please Click the following links to view the Learning Journey Roadmaps:

[Geography Learning Journey](#)