



Geography Curriculum

Why do we teach Geography?

Our philosophy is to get Forest Hill students to engage with and enjoy their geographical and wider studies, developing a passion and commitment to learning about our planet and its rich diversity. Geography teaches us about the world around us and is challenging, motivating, topical and engaging. It is a broad subject with an array of cross-curricular links, connecting the sciences and maths along with the arts in a way no other subject does. It is a robustly academic subject that is well respected by universities and employers. In our increasingly diverse society, students need more than ever before to understand other people and cultures. Through the study of our geography curriculum, students will make progress towards becoming an outstanding geographer, understanding and valuing the importance of the subject to their life now and in the future.

How do we teach Geography?

Geography at FHS is planned and taught entirely by subject specialists who have a wide range of geographical backgrounds. This allows us to plan and teach challenging and engaging lessons from KS3 up to KS5. We are members of the Geographical Association, allowing us access to a vibrant subject community and we subscribe to Geographical magazine allowing us to provide key reading where appropriate and to keep up with current subject developments. The well-resourced geography curriculum provides appropriate stretch and challenge for all abilities and skills, with a range of scaffolding and challenge tasks available in all schemes of work.

What do we teach in Geography?

In Year 7 we start with a baseline test and work to establish what geography, if any, the students have covered at primary school. From this point on we work to plug the gaps that exist, and start teaching core geographical skills and ideas covering the big geographical ideas, such as population growth, climate change, migration, extreme weather events and climate change. Each year there is progression in the skills and understanding, with each unit of work adding to the building blocks of their knowledge. At KS4 we follow the OCR A Geography syllabus which covers UK geography, world geography and a wide range of geographical skills. At KS5 we continue to study OCR allowing consistency in command word use and guiding principles.

How is Geography personalised for our learners?

Our core principles are to expand students' world knowledge and cultural capital, allowing them to understand their place in the world from local to global scales. We are constantly seeking to develop students' curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. In Yr 9 and Yr 10 we offer students the opportunity to visit Iceland and in Yr10 we take students on two trips to our local area to study the physical and human geography fieldwork components of their GCSE. At KS5 we offer a range of trips, to local and national destinations, to support them in their study of place and space and coasts. This will also support them in the production of their NEA.



Geography Curriculum

Year 7	Autumn 1/2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	What makes a good geographer? Mapskills	How do we use our planet as a natural resource?	What is an economy, from local to global?	What are the opportunities and challenges facing Africa?	Thinking like a Geographer -Is out knowledge of the world wrong?
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being an outstanding geographer Asking geographical questions Locational knowledge of the world's continents and oceans Map skills Longitude and latitude Locating places on a world map using co-ordinates Locating features on an OS map Locating places on an OS map using four-six figure grid reference Height on a map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The different elements that make up our planet and how they interact Rocks and soils and their importance to life Biomes and how the rainforest biome work How people use the Earth's natural resources such as water, oil and energy supplies Renewable and non-renewable resources Extended writing skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment sectors How jobs have changed over time Trade and globalisation How the UK economy has developed over time Decision making task Map skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical and Human geography of Africa Africa's colonial history. Challenges facing the continent including desertification Opportunities to develop and change Map skills Source inference Causation Case study Extended writing skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using and evaluating global statistics from Factfulness. Causes and consequences of climate change. Possible solutions to climate change Evidence for climate change Options for the planet's future Extended writing skills
Summative Assessment	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 End of Year exam Short and extended answers
Builds on	KS2 – Building on locational Knowledge	KS2 – Builds on skills developed at KS2	KS2 – Builds on skills developed at KS2	KS3 – History - Colonialism Geographical skills	KS3 – Geographical skills
Builds towards	Develops key aspects of studying people and places revisited throughout KS3, KS4, KS5	KS3 – Yr 7 Africa Yr 8 Russia Yr 9 Middle East KS4 – Environmental Issues in the UK	KS3 – Africa, Russia, Development KS4 – People of the Planet People of the UK	KS3 – Development KS4 – People of the Planet Development	KS3 – Development KS4 – People of the Planet Development Environmental Issues in the UK



Geography Curriculum

YEAR 8	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1 & 2
Key content	Why are rivers important?	How are populations changing?	Is Russia the next Superpower?	What is weather and climate?	What happens when land meets the sea?
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What rivers are and how rivers flow into them • How weathering, erosion, and transportation create river landforms • Why rivers are important to people • Causes and response to flooding • OS MAPS • Extended writing skills • Case study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population distribution • How countries attempt to control population change • Types of migration • Urbanisation • OS map skills • Numeracy skills • Decision making skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is Russia located • What is Russia like • The physical landscape, climate and natural environment of Russia. • How Russia's physical geography has influenced its human geography • How important Russia is to the world • Map skills • Climate graphs • Geographical Information Systems • Enquiry skills • Decision making skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concepts of weather and climate • Elements that make up the weather and climate • How weather is measured • Reading weather maps using synoptic charts • Analysing causes and effects of weather eg tropical storms. • Interpreting weather charts and using the synoptic code • Conducting a weather enquiry • Climate graphs and the analysis of climate data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how erosion, deposition and transportation create and change coastal landforms over time • To consider how the coast is used by people • Understand the need for, and impact of, different coastal management strategies. • Use of photos and OS maps to identify coastal landforms • Decision Making • Mind Mapping
Summative Assessment	Essay End of unit test /40	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers
Builds on	KS2 – Water Cycle KS3 – Map skills	KS3 – Map skills	KS3 – Yr 8 Population Yr 7 Natural resources	KS2 – Water cycle KS3 – Rivers Geographical skills	KS3 – Geographical skills Rivers
Builds towards	KS4 – River Landscapes Geographical Skills/Fieldwork	KS3 – Yr 8 Russia KS4 – People of the Planet People of the UK KS5 – Global migration	KS4 – People of the Planet KS5 – Power and Borders	KS4 – Geographical Skills Ecosystems of the Planet	KS4 – Landscapes of the UK KS5 – Coastal landscapes



Geography Curriculum

YEAR 9	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1/2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Why are some countries more developed than others?	Can we ever know enough about earthquakes and volcanoes to live safely?	The rise of China and India – How is Asia being transformed?	How does Ice change the world?	The Middle East – Why is the Middle East an important world region?
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define development Compare development around the world Understand where and why inequality occurs Understand the actions taken by individuals, governments and communities to aid development Choropleth maps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theory of plate tectonics How earthquakes and volcanoes are linked to plate tectonics The hazards for people associated with these events How scientists attempt to predict, manage and prevent these hazards Analysing evidence of scientific theory Describing and explaining patterns Case studies Extended writing skills – Comparison and contrast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asia’s diverse physical and human geography Asia as a continent of dynamic change The changing relationship between Asia and the rest of the world Map skills Source inference Causation Case study Extended writing skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are glaciers? The distribution of glaciers and ice How glaciers change the landscape How people use glaciers How glaciers are changing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of Middle East region and countries that make up the region The physical landscape and human geography of the Middle East Examples of conflict and controversy - Middle East The importance of the region to the world. Map skills Source inference Causation Case study Extended writing skills Climate graphs and the analysis of climate data
Summative Assessment	Essay End of unit test /40	Decision Making task End of unit test /40	End of unit test /4 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers	End of unit test /40 Short and extended answers
Builds on	KS3 – Map and Geographical skills	KS3 – Earthquakes and Volcanoes Population Africa, Russia	KS3 – Geographical Skills, Development, Population, Economy, Weather and climate	KS3 – Geographical Skills, Development, Population, Economy, Weather and climate	KS3 – Geographical Skills, Development, Population, Economy, Weather and climate
Builds towards	KS3 – Development KS5 – Hazardous Earth	KS3 – The Rise of China and India KS4 – People of the Planet	KS4 – People of the planet	KS4 – People of the planet KS5 – Power and Borders	KS4 – Landscapes of the UK Environmental threat to the Planet



Geography Curriculum

YEAR 10	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Paper 1 - Living in the UK Today People of the UK	Paper 1 - Living in the UK Today People of the UK	Paper 1 - Living in the UK Today UK Environmental Challenges	Paper 1 - Living in the UK Today UK Environmental Challenges	Paper 1 - Living in the UK Today Landscapes of the UK	Paper 1 - Living in the UK Today Landscapes of the UK
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade in the UK Patterns of development in the UK Population trends in the UK Map skills Completing 4 and 6 mark questions Using mark schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trends in UK migration Urban trends in the UK – Re-urbanisation, suburbanisation and counter-urbanisation Case study - London Completing 8- and 12-mark questions Using mark schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air masses and extreme weather in the UK Resource use in the UK – the impact of farming, commercial fishing and water usage Completing 6- and 8-mark questions Using mark schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable and non-renewable energy sources in the UK The UK energy mix Benefits and problems of nuclear power and fracking. Future of energy supply in the UK Completing 8- and 12-mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of Britain’s landscapes- uplands and lowlands River processes and landforms A river from source to mouth – river management Coastal processes and landforms Case study – Coastal management Completing 4-6,8, and 12 mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fieldwork; River Ravensbourne and Bell Green Retail Park Completing Paper 3 skills questions
Summative Assessment	End of unit topic tests	End of unit topic tests	End of unit topic tests	End of unit topic tests	End of unit topic tests	PPE - Paper 1 – Living in the UK - 1 Hour
Builds on	KS3 – What makes a good economy? Population Locational knowledge and map skills	KS3 – What makes a good economy? Population Locational knowledge and map skills	KS3 – Climate Change	KS3 – Weather and Climate Resources Climate Change	KS3 – Rivers and Coasts	KS3 – Rivers and Coasts
Builds towards	June PPE	June PPE	June PPE	June PPE	June PPE	Paper 3 – Geographical Skills/Fieldwork



Geography Curriculum

YEAR 11	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Key content	Paper 2 - The World Around Us People of the Planet	Paper 2 - The World Around Us People of the Planet	Paper 2 - The World Around Us Ecosystems of the planet	Paper 2 - The World Around Us Environmental Threats to the planet	Paper 2 - The World Around Us Environmental Threats to the planet Revision for Geographical Skills – Paper 3
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and measures of global development • Causes of uneven development • Role of aid in development • Case Study – Development in Ethiopia • Completing 4-6,8, and 12 mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urbanisation • Growth of mega cities and world cities • Causes and consequences of rapid population growth • Case study – Consequences of urbanisation in Lagos • Completing 4-6,8, and 12 mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of global biomes – Polar regions, tropical rainforests, hot deserts, coral reefs, tropical grasslands, temperate woodlands, temperate grasslands • Case study – Management of rainforests in Peru • Case Study – Management of coral reefs • Completing 4-6,8, and 12 mark questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence for climate change • Human and physical causes of climate change • Global impacts of climate change • Completing 4-6,8, and 12 mark questions • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of extreme weather -drought and tropical storms • • Geographical skills for paper 3 – Map skills, evaluation of fieldwork
Summative Assessment	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	November/December PPEs Paper 1 Living in the UK Paper 2 – The World Around Us	End of topic tests at the end of each unit	Full set of GCSE Centre Assessments	GCSE Final exams
Builds on	KS3 – Development Urbanisation	KS3 – Development Urbanisation	KS3 – Distribution of Biomes	KS3 – Weather and climate Climate change	KS3 – Weather and climate Climate change
Builds towards	November/December PPEs	March/April PPEs	March/April PPEs	June Exams	June Exams



Geography Curriculum

YEAR 12	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Landscape Systems: Coastal Landscapes Human Interactions: Changing Spaces; making places	Landscape Systems: Coastal Landscapes Human Interactions: Changing Spaces; making places	Landscape Systems: Coastal Landscapes Human Interactions: Changing Spaces; making places	Geographical Debates: Hazardous Earth Global connections: Global Migration	Geographical Debates: Hazardous Earth Global connections: Global Migration	Geographical Debates: Hazardous Earth Global connections: Global Migration
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal landscapes – Coastal landscapes as systems, coastal landforms Changing Spaces; making places – What is a place? How places are represented – How we understand place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal landscapes – Landforms and climate change, Changing Spaces; making places – Economic change and patterns of social inequality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal landscapes – Human activity and coastal landscapes Changing Spaces; making places – How are places created through place making processes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazardous Earth – Continental drift and plate tectonics Hazards of volcanic activity Global migration – Patterns of global migration Relationship between international migration and economic development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazardous Earth – Hazards of seismic activity Global migration – Issues associated with unequal flows of migration -Case Study the USA and Laos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazardous Earth – Mitigation strategies in tectonically active locations Global migration – Issues associated with unequal flows of migration -Case Study the USA and Laos
Summative Assessment	Mock 1 Combination of questions from Papers 1 and 2		Mock 2 Combination of questions from Papers 2 and 3		End of Year Exam Combination of questions from Paper 1,2,3,	
Builds on	KS3 – Coasts Population and Urbanisation KS4 – Landscapes of the UK People of the UK	KS3 – Coasts Population and Urbanisation KS4 – Landscapes of the UK People of the UK	KS3 – Coasts Population and Urbanisation KS4 – Landscapes of the UK People of the UK	KS3 – Earthquakes and Volcanoes Population and Urbanisation KS4 – Landscapes of the UK People of the UK	KS3 – Earthquakes and Volcanoes Population and Urbanisation KS4 – Landscapes of the UK People of the UK	KS3 – Earthquakes and Volcanoes Population and Urbanisation KS4 – Landscapes of the UK People of the UK
Builds towards	Paper 1 and Paper 2	Paper 1 and Paper 2	Paper 1 and Paper 2	Paper 2 and Paper 3	Paper 2 and Paper 3	Paper 2 and Paper 3



Geography Curriculum

YEAR 13	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Key content	Geographical Debates: Disease Dilemmas Earth's Life Support Systems	Geographical Debates: Disease Dilemmas Earth's Life Support Systems	Geographical Debates: Disease Dilemmas Earth's Life Support Systems/ Global connections Power and Borders	Global connections: Power and Borders Revision – Disease Dilemmas Earth's Life Support Systems Power and Borders Global migration Hazardous Earth Changing Spaces Making Places Synoptic assessment	Revision – Disease Dilemmas Earth's Life Support Systems Power and Borders Global migration Hazardous Earth Changing Spaces Making Places Synoptic assessment
Key concepts & skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease Dilemmas - Patterns of global disease - Links between disease and levels of economic development • Earth's Life Support Systems – Importance of water and carbon to life on Earth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease Dilemmas – How effectively are communicable and non-communicable diseases be dealt with – • Earth's Life Support Systems – How the water and carbon cycle operate in contrasting locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease Dilemmas - Mitigation and prediction of disease – eradication of disease • Earth's Life support systems – How water and carbon cycles change over time -Links in the water and carbon cycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power and Borders – Sovereignty and territorial integrity – Contemporary challenges to sovereign state authority – Role of global governance in conflict 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variety of short and long exam questions
Summative Assessment		Mock 1 Combination of questions from papers 1,2,3	Mock 2 Papers 1,2,3,	Variety of exam questions	
Builds on	KS3 - Development KS4 – Ecosystems of the planet	KS3 - Development KS4 – Ecosystems of the planet	KS3 - Development KS4 – Ecosystems of the planet	KS3 – Development KS3 – Africa, Middle East, Russia	
Builds towards	Year 13 Exams	Year 13 Exams	Year 13 Exams	Year 13 Exams	Year 13 Exams