

Geography Curriculum for years 7, 8 and 9

According to Dr Rita Gardner, Director of the Royal Geographical Society, 'There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With growing interest in issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation and social cohesion, geography is one of the most relevant courses you could choose to study. Geographers are also highly employable. Whatever your passion for the world - fascination with landscapes or concerns about inequality - geography will provide you with knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally.' At Seva School, students will study the following topics in Key Stage 3 and GCSE:

Geography Curriculum Overview Year 7

- 7.1. Maps and Mapping.
- 7.2. About the UK.
- 7.3. Glaciers.
- 7.4. Rivers.
- 7.5. Weather and climate.
- 7.6. Coasts.

Geography Curriculum Overview Year 8

- 8.1. Population.
- 8.2. Asia.
- 8.3. Our restless planet! (Volcanoes and earthquakes)
- 8.4. From rock to soil.
- 8.5. Living off earth's resources.
- 8.6. International Development.

Geography Curriculum Overview Year 9

- 9.1. Global Geographical Issues: Hazardous Earth.
- 9.2. Global Geographical Issues: Hazardous Earth.
- 9.3. Global Geographical Issues: Development Dynamics.
- 9.4. Global Geographical Issues: Development Dynamics.
- 9.5. Global Geographical Issues: Challenges of an Urbanising World.
- 9.6. Global Geographical Issues: Challenges of an Urbanising World.

How can you help?

- ✓ Ensure your child puts their very best effort into their Homework.
- ✓ Encourage them to ask for help if they are stuck.
- ✓ Check your child's planner to see if they have any Homework.
- ✓ Make sure your child revises well for their tests and end of year exams.

Assessment

Students in Key Stage 3 will be taught one lesson of Religious Education every week. Students will complete two assessed assignments every half term on the topic being studied. The first will be an extended piece of work and the second will take the form of a test in exam conditions.



In year 9, students will have two lessons of GCSE Geography per week and will complete two assessed assignments every half term on the topic being studied. The first will be an extended piece of work and the second will take the form of a test in exam conditions.

The National Curriculum

Please follow the following link to find out more about Geography in the national curriculum.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239087/SECONDARY_national_curriculum - Geography.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239087/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_Geography.pdf)

GCSE Geography

The school follows Edexcel's programme in GCSE Geography. Further information about the course can be found at the following website:

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

**Year 7 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Autumn 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Maps and mapping**

In what ways am I connected to people and places all over the world?

What are mental maps, and how can I make mine better?

What does the scale on a map tell me?

What is the difference between a sketch map, and the maps in an atlas?

What are grid references, and how do I use them to find places?

How can I measure distance on a map?

What are the compass points, and why are they useful?

What are OS maps, and what kind of things do they show?

What do these terms mean? *Equator, Prime Meridian, latitude, longitude.*

**Year 7 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Autumn Term 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
About the UK**

Which countries and nations make up the British Isles?

The UK has several mountain ranges. Where? What are their names?

Which are the UK's main rivers, and where are they? (Give at least six).

Which parts of the UK are the warmest? Coldest? wettest? driest? You should be able to describe the patterns.

Which parts of the UK are the most crowded? And least crowded?

What do these terms mean? *Urban area, rural area, population density.*

Which are the UK's biggest cities, and where are they? (Name at least five of the top ten).

See if you can give at least four facts about the UK's economy. You could mention some exports and imports.

Give at least four geographical facts about London, the UK's capital city.

**Year 7 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Spring 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Glaciers**

What are glaciers Are made of, and how do they form?

What is the difference between an ice sheet and a mountain glacier?

Where would I see glaciers on earth today?

Where would I have seen glaciers in Britain, 20,000 years ago?

What do these terms mean? *Glacial, glaciated and glaciation.*

Glaciers shape the land they flow over. How do they do this?

What do these terms mean? *Plucking, abrasion, freeze-thaw weathering, crevasse, till, moraine, erratic, drumlin.*

How are these formed? *Corrie, arête, pyramidal peak, U-shaped valley, hanging valley.*

Which glacial landforms can I pick out, on an OS map?

In what kinds of ways do glaciers benefit humans? (Try for at least two ways)

**Year 7 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Spring 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
Rivers**

What is the water cycle?

How does the rainfall from the water cycle feed a river?

Explain what each of these river terms mean. Draw some sketches to support your work on this. *Source, mouth, tributary, confluence, river basin, watershed, floodplain, river bed, river banks.*

How do rivers shape the land? Use the terms erode, transport, and deposit in your answer.

How do these get formed? *V-shaped valley, waterfall, gorge, meander, oxbow lake*

In what kinds of ways do we use rivers? Explain at least five ways.

What causes floods? Which factors make flooding more likely? Give at least three.

Where does the River Thames rise and which sea does it flow into?

Name some settlements (cities, towns, villages) on the River Thames. You should name at least six.

**Year 7 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Summer 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Weather and climate**

What is weather, and what causes it?

What do these terms mean? Temperature, precipitation, air pressure, wind speed, wind direction.

What are the three different kinds of rainfall, and how does each form?

What kind of weather is linked to: *low pressure, ? High pressure in summer? High pressure in winter?*

The weather in the UK can change very quickly. Why?

What do these terms mean? *Air mass, warm front, cold front.*

In geography, what is a depression? How does it form?

What's the difference between weather and climate?

What factors influence climate? Which is the main one and why?

Earth can be divided into regions with very different climates. What examples can you give? (Provide at least five)

**Year 7 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Summer 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
Coasts**

What causes waves?

How do waves shape the coast?

What do these terms mean? *Erode, transport, deposit, longshore drift*

What are these, and how are they formed? Beach, bay, headland, cave, arch, stack, stump, wave-cut platform, spit, salt marsh.

How do we use the land along the coast? Give at least five examples.

What is a *storm surge*?

Why is the coastline eroding fast, in some parts of the UK?

What kinds of structures do we build, to protect land and homes from the sea? Name at least four.

What are the government's plans for coastal defences?

**Year 8 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Autumn 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Population**

Roughly how many people are there on Earth right now?

What do these terms mean? *Population, population distribution, population density.*

How has Earth's population grown since 10,000 BC? You should be able to sketch the graph, and add some dates.

Which parts of Earth are the most crowded, and which the most empty? You must describe the overall pattern.

What does *life expectancy* mean, and how is it changing – and why?

How is Earth's population predicted to change, up to 2100?

What problems might a country face, if its population ... keeps rising? ... keeps falling?

What can I say about the UK's population? Give at least four facts

The rising population has an impact on Earth, and on other species. What examples can you give? Provide at least five.

**Year 8 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Autumn 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
Asia**

What and where is Asia?

Which oceans and sea areas border it? Name all the oceans, and at least four other coastal waters (seas, bays, gulfs).

What are Asia's main physical features, and where? You should be able to name, and point out on a map, the following places:

- The Himalayas, and at least two other mountain ranges, including one which acts as a border with Europe
- The plateau of Tibet, and at least one other plateau
- Asia's tallest mountain, and largest lake
- At least five major rivers, including Asia's longest river
- The Gobi desert, and Thar desert

Name at least 12 Asian countries and their capitals

Give at least six facts about the human geography of Asia – about people and their lives. For example, how big is the population?

List Asia's eight biomes, and give at least two facts about each.

**Year 8 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Spring 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Our restless planet! (Volcanoes and Earthquakes)**

What are Earth's plates, and why do they move?

What do these terms mean? *Crust, mantle, core, lithosphere, convection current, oceanic crust, continental crust.*

What causes earthquakes? What kind of damage do they do?

What do these terms mean? *Fault, focus, epicentre, seismic wave, aftershock, tsunami.*

What causes tsunami? What kind of damage do they do?

What are volcanoes? What kind of damage do eruptions do?

What do these terms mean? *Magma, lava, crater, pyroclastic flow, mudflow, ash*

Why do people live near plate edges, even though these are danger zones?

**Year 8 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Spring 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
From rock to soil**

What is *mineral*? Give at least three examples.

What are the three groups of rock? How were the rocks in each group formed? Name at least one rock in each group.

What do these terms mean? *Weathering, physical weathering, chemical weathering, freeze-thaw weathering, exfoliation.*

What is the rock cycle? You should be able to describe it, and sketch it.

What are *plates*, and why do they move?

The UK has rock which was formed in other parts of the world. Why?

Why does the UK have mountainous areas?

What type of bedrock does the UK have? You should be able to describe the general pattern?

How does rock type influence the landscape? Give at least two examples.

What do these terms mean? *Soil, humus, topsoil, nutrient, fertiliser.*

How is soil formed? Why is it so important to humans?

**Year 8 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Summer 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Living off earth's resources**

Explain these terms, and give two examples for each. *Natural resource, renewable resource, non-renewable resource.*

What do these terms mean? *Fresh water, groundwater, aquifer, irrigate, physical water scarcity, economic water scarcity.*

What is the main use of fresh water, around the world?

More and more people face the problem of water scarcity. Give three examples of things that could be done, to tackle the problem.

What and where are: Earth's drylands? The Sahel?

Explain why desertification is a major world problem.

Name five countries which have large reserves of oil.

Many countries are trying to use less oil. What is the main reason?

Name five natural, renewable resources used to produce electricity in the UK.

Solar power can make a big difference in poorer countries. Explain why.

Many species are at risk of extinction – and we are the cause. Explain why.

**Year 8 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Summer 2 1/2 termly delivery)
International Development**

What conditions might you expect to find in a poorly developed country?

What are *development indicators*, and which five examples can you give? Include GDP per person (PPP).

Overall, on which continent are people poorest?

Where is Malawi? What can you say about it? Give at least six facts, including facts about its level of development.
Where is Singapore? What can you say about it? Give at least six facts, including facts about its level of development.
Some countries are much less developed than others. See if you can give at least six reasons to help explain why.
What do these terms mean? <i>Colony, corruption, cash crop, commodity, infrastructure.</i>
What kinds of things drive people to leave their countries, to try to enter other countries illegally? What kinds of dangers do they face?
What does <i>extreme poverty</i> mean (in terms of dollars)?
What part can each play in helping to end extreme poverty? <i>The poor countries themselves, the richer countries, individuals like you</i>
Manufacturing can play a big part in helping poor countries to develop. Give three reasons to explain why.

**Year 9 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Autumn 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Global Geographical Issues: Hazardous Earth 1**

How does the world's climate system function?
What are the natural causes of climate change?
How are human activities causing climate change?
What are the possible consequences of climate change?
How are extreme weather events increasingly hazardous for people?
What impacts do tropical cyclones have on people and environments?
Why are some countries vulnerable to tropical cyclones?

**Year 9 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Autumn 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
Global Geographical Issues: Hazardous Earth 2**

How do countries prepare for and respond to tropical cyclones?
How does the earth's structure influence plate tectonics?
What happens when tectonic plates move?
What are the different types of volcanoes?
What are the impacts of and responses to volcanic hazards?
What are the impacts of and responses to earthquakes?

**Year 9 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Spring 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Global Geographical Issues: Development Dynamics 1**

How do we define and measure development?

How do demographic data vary at different levels of development?

What are the causes and consequences of global inequalities?

How do development theories explain development?

**Year 9 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Spring 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
Global Geographical Issues: Development Dynamics 2**

Are top-down or bottom-up approaches to development more successful?

How has India's development been influenced by its location and global links?

How are globalisation and other changes in the economy linked to India's development?

What impacts has rapid economic change in India had on its people and environment?

**Year 9 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Summer 1 (1/2 termly delivery)
Global Geographical Issues: Challenges of an Urbanising World 1**

Why is the world becoming increasingly urbanised?

How do social and economic changes lead to urbanisation?

Why are urban economies different in developing, emerging and developed countries?

Why and how do cities change over time?

What makes Mumbai a megacity?

How has Mumbai's structure developed?

**Year 9 Geography Curriculum Objectives
Summer 2 (1/2 termly delivery)
Global Geographical Issues: Challenges of an Urbanising World 2**

Why has Mumbai grown so rapidly?

What are the opportunities of living in Mumbai?

What are the challenges of living in Mumbai?

Why are there differences in quality of life in Mumbai?

Can top-down strategies make Mumbai more sustainable?

Can bottom-up strategies make Mumbai more sustainable?