

Subject Geography

Year 8

Term 1 programme of Study:

What are weathering and erosion and how do they shape the landscape.

Rivers, including how drainage basins work and how landforms like waterfalls are formed.

Coasts, including how cliffs are eroded by the sea and how some landforms are created by sand being deposited.

Term 2 programme of Study:

Population, including how the world's population has been growing.

The reasons for the rapid growth over the last 50 years.

Where most people live. The distribution of the world's population.

Term 3 programme of Study:

Energy and resources, including where we get most of our energy and resources today.

The different types of energy and resources.

What problems are we going to have e.g. climate change and some resources running out.

Homework:

Homework is set each week and should last about half an hour. There will be a range of tasks set, for example: research tasks; the writing of longer essay-style answers; the completion of worksheets; completing classwork tasks up to date and so on. Usually the students will have several days to complete the homework, though anyone who fails to complete it by the deadline will be given detentions.

Assessment:

Assessment is on-going throughout the year. We measure a child's progress by using the English National Curriculum 'levels of attainment' descriptions for Geography.

There will be a written 'test' style of assessment after each topic which will last at least half an hour. There will be at least one of these per term. However, there will also be other shorter assessments, that may be written or the result of observations and conversations with the classroom teacher and these will monitor your child's progress in a variety of aspects of the subject. These include:

- Being able to use **data to draw and interpret graphs e.g.** the growth of population
- Being able to **describe the location** of **places** and understand what makes a place similar and different to other places e.g. explaining the distribution of the world's population
- Being able to **recognize and describe patterns** e.g. describing the distribution of the world's population.
- Being able to **understand and explain** the **formation of physical features** such as waterfalls in rivers and stacks along coastlines.
- Being able to **understand and explain** how **changes** in the world occur such as the reasons for the growth of population
- Being able to **analyse** data such as birth and death rates for different countries.
- Being able to **evaluate** e.g. the advantages and disadvantages of different sources of energy.

How parents can support learning:

Parents can support their child's learning by helping them to develop a positive attitude towards the subject. This might include:

- Helping with homework (though not doing it for them)
- Making sure that homework is completed properly
- In general encouraging their child to become independent learners.

Learning resources:

In Year 7 we mostly use the Foundations textbooks and these are frequently used for homework and revision. In addition there are many paper resources used such as worksheets and, in class, a variety of other textbooks and Atlases are used. The internet is frequently a valuable resource in geography and is used both in class and for homework. Quite often your child will be asked to print completed computer-based work and so a colour printer is valuable.

