



Geography KS3 Intent

- 1. Engage pupils in Geographical topics, that are relevant to their life in Birmingham, and to other people on a wider scale** The aim of the KS3 Geography curriculum at Queensbridge is to engage pupils with geography topics and themes from the KS3 national curriculum, in a way that engages and stimulates pupils, and encourages them to ask questions about real-world place and events. We use real-world exemplars, at local, regional, national and international scales, to bring the curriculum to life and encourage pupils to develop a willingness to enquire and investigate the real world around them.
- 2. Develop a broad range of cross-curricular skills – that are key in KS4 Geography** The KS3 curriculum develops pupil's increasingly independent use of a wide range of cross-curricular skills, that are essential elements of the KS4 GCSE curriculum. These include skills linked to using a range of maps and keys, interpreting a range of data sources, presenting data in various ways, being able to extract information from a range of different diagrams, and developing field-work skills, independent and group work.
- 3. Increase confidence in Geographical 'literacy', and place knowledge** By the end of KS3, pupils should have a more detailed understanding of the topics within the KS3 national curriculum, and developed their literacy linked to these topics: Geological timescales, Plate tectonics, Rocks, weathering and soils, Weather and climate, including the change in climate from the Ice Age to the present, Glaciation, Hydrology, Coasts, Population and urbanisation, International development, Economic activity in the primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary sectors, and the use of natural resources. We aim pupils to be confident when discussing 'real world' geographical issues, current events and news, and local case studies throughout KS3.

Year 7: Quest: What is "my community"?

The nine-week QUEST scheme of work introduces pupils to Geography by looking at the Earth's place in the Solar System, and geological timescales linked to Earth's creation. Pupils then "zoom in", via the continents and oceans of the world, to looking at Europe and the EU, before focussing on the British Isles, regions of the UK, the West Midlands region, Birmingham, Moseley and Kings Heath, and our school community.

A visit to collect data on the local High Street, in order to prove or disprove a hypothesis, is the culmination of pupils' developing numeracy, and data processing and presentation skills. Home Learning tasks are about local issues or encourage pupils to discuss their work at home with their family.

This scheme of work aims to be relevant to pupils so they understand the 'point' of Geography, and how it links to their life in Birmingham.

Year 8: Movement: People and Water

- Cycle 1: What controls where we live?
- Cycle 2: Water: Does it have power over people?
- Cycle 3: Water: Does it have power over the land?
- Cycle 4: Water: Can it be controlled?

The year eight scheme of work focuses in more detail on key topics and places, with overall Big Questions that share a common thread of "People and Water". Within this pupils also focus in detail on India and Kenya, through detailed home-learning tasks. A wide-variety of topics are studied through a range of local, national and international locations.

Weekly home-learning tasks are link directly to, and complement or extend, class activities. A Wide range of skills are developed, including local fieldwork into management of the River Rea

Year 9: Humans and Nature: Impacts on our lives

- Cycle 1: Earth: Why is our planet so deadly?
- Cycle 2: Industry and Globalisation: Good or bad?
- Cycle 3: Development: Will we ever all be "equal"?
- Cycle 4: The UK coastline: Will we ever win against nature?

The year nine scheme of work looks at global issues that may seem distant from our life in the UK, but also human and physical factors that can affect us in our everyday lives.

Assessments include activities that introduce GCSE exam techniques to pupils, such as decision-making and problem solving enquiries.

To further engage pupils, in weeks 8&9 of two cycles pupils investigate local issues that will impact their lives as adults in Birmingham, as well as practical map skills, and looking at Geography in the news.