

St Nicholas Catholic High School Curriculum Overview

Name of Department: Geography

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Autumn	<p><u>My place in the world:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does it mean to study geography and what different types exist? An understanding of my place within the UK at varying scales (local, regional and national) and why places exist in the places they do. <p><u>What geographical skills do I need?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to use geographical data, read a map, use compass points, read four and six figure grid references, make use of a scale, measure distance on a map and interpret the height and elevation of the land. 	<p><u>Why are rivers important?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What rivers are and how water flows into them. How weathering, erosion and transportation create distinctive river landforms as well as how they appear on an OS map. To be able to recognise the impacts of a flooding event in two contrasting locations. <p><u>Is the geography of Russia a curse or benefit?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Russia's location, what it is like in terms of human and physical geography. This will include the physical landscape, climate and natural environment of Russia as well as population characteristics. Brief understanding of Russia's history and the role it plays within society today. 	<p><u>Can we ever know enough about earthquakes and volcanoes to live safely?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to plate tectonics and the theory of movement, including assessing evidence of tectonic theory. A thorough investigation into the different types of plate boundary and the hazards they produce in contrasting locations. Exploration of hazard management and hazard responses in relation to contrasting levels of development.
Spring	<p><u>Is Earth running out of natural resources?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The different elements that make up our planet and how they interact. Knowledge on how rocks and soils form and their importance to life. What a biome is and how the rainforest biome works. How people use the Earth's natural resources such as water, oil and energy supplies. The difference between renewable and non-renewable resources. <p><u>What is weather and climate?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The concepts of weather and climate, the elements that make up weather and climate as well as how our weather is measured. How to read weather maps and how to distinguish between weather and climate. 	<p><u>How does ice change the world?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A developed understanding on how ice can change the physical landscape via the processes of erosion and transportation. Knowing how to identify glacial landforms on OS maps and being able to explain why the distribution of ice varies across the world. <p><u>How is Asia being transformed?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An appreciation of Asia's diverse human and physical geography with an exploration into the economic importance of China and India and the opportunities and challenges this can bring. 	<p><u>What is development?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the concept of development, how it can be interpreted and the ways in which it can be measured. An increased understanding of the term inequality and quality of life and how it varies from country to country and why. <p><u>What challenges and opportunities exist living in the UK?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is meant by the term global economy and what role does the UK have to play within it. With an investigation into the challenges (food, water, energy and waste) and opportunities that exist whilst living in the UK.
Summer	<p><u>Why is the Middle East an important world region?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know where the Middle East region is located and what countries make up the region. An investigation into the human and physical landscape of the area as well as examples of conflict and controversy. An appreciation of the importance of the region. <p><u>What are the challenges Earth faces?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The harmful effects of plastics on marine life. The life cycle of a plastic bottle and the lasting damage it can cause. An appreciation of the size and scale of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch alongside ways we can reduce plastic waste. 	<p><u>What happens where the land meets the sea?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the uses for a coastline and how does erosion, transportation and deposition create and change distinctive coastal landforms over time? Why is there a need for coastal management and how can that sometimes lead to conflict? <p><u>Investigating a sense of place:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An investigation into how we identify with a place, what is our perception of a particular place and why? Conduct an onsite fieldwork visit to test the quality of environment via data collection, presentation and analysis. 	<p><u>What is the value of our natural planet?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looks at the distribution of global ecosystems, and the global and local threats that are posed. Explores case studies of specific environments e.g. coral reefs and their threats/management. <p><u>How can we respond to climate change?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That climate change is a controversial issue affecting the future of our planet and a significant amount of evidence exists to support that fact. An investigation into the causes and consequences of climate change alongside a group presentation on why we should act now.