

Fairfield High School Curriculum Overview – Year 7

Subject	Geography	Why do we study these units in Year 7?
Lessons per fortnight	3	Year 7 in Geography begins with developing students’ understanding of their place in the world through multiple scales: local, national and global. Developing their understanding of scale at an early stage allows students to interrogate all following geographical concepts with greater ease. Students then move onto developing explicit OS map skills, the issue of water as a resource and as a hazard, a regional study of India with a focus on Bangalore (through partnership with Hope Foundation), and an introduction to tectonics through volcanoes. These topics help begin developing students’ knowledge of the UNSDGs in contemporary settings, dealing with issues and concepts directly related to their daily lives as well as globally.
Setting	Tutor groups.	

Students are encouraged to be Responsible Global Citizens through activities/content on... The curriculum has a strong focus on sustainability as understood through the 3-spheres model and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG). Through the water topic, causes and consequences of unequal access to water resources is studied (UNSDG 1, 6, 10, 12).

By means of the regional India study, rapid economic development in a newly emerging economy (UNSDG 1, 3, 8, 11).

We ensure all students experience high challenge in the subject by including... promoting effective peer assessment and ensuring all lessons have an open-ended enquiry question that allows students scope to further explore an issue. Geography uses a special SMHW group in order to provide further challenge outside of school.

Literacy work this year includes... Academic language in Geography promoted each lesson. GCSE-style assessments that develop content and structure in extended written answers. Language from the UNSDGs used throughout the year to help develop subject-specific vocabulary.

Innovation and Creativity opportunities this year include... Students are encouraged to think innovatively about issues presented in each topic (e.g. how to sustainably provided water to a rural community under water stress).

Employability opportunities/skills covered this year are... Map skills provides the basic understanding for job roles including GIS and cartography. The water topic encourages students to think about job roles such as NGO work, providing basic infrastructure, aid work, and flood and hazard management.

Term	Unit title	Knowledge and Understanding/content	Skills	Assessment
1	Geography and my local area	Connections at different scales, UNSDGs, 3-spheres of geography.	Describing locations. Independent enquiry - fieldwork skills. Group work – UNSDG collaboration.	Baseline.
2	Investigating places with maps	Map projections, GIS.	Range of GCSE OS map skills.	Map skills assessment.
3	Water as a resource	Cause-impact-response to water insecurity, sustainable water use.	Cartograms, DME assessment, numeracy.	DME.
4	Booming India	Overview of India as NEE, fundamentals of sustainable economic growth.	Sketch-map at national scale, data analysis, interpreting different data presentation techniques.	TBC.
5	Water as a hazard	Cause-effects-responses to flooding in the UK, water cycle.	P-E-E paragraphing, OS map skills,	Explaining causes of flooding in the UK.

6	Volcanoes	Theory of plate tectonics, formation of volcanoes, cause-effect-response to volcanic eruptions.	Case study analysis, mapping geographic data.	Creative writing.
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