

GEOGRAPHY

Curriculum Vision Statement

"Studying places is not finished, it is an ongoing project. No place stays the same, nor do its links with other places. We must understand that our work is never done. The world will never stop changing and neither will our places".

Doreen Massey,
Professor of Geography,
Open University



Vision

The Northampton School for Girls' (NSG) Geography curriculum allows students to study our ever-changing planet Earth, to create a sense of awe and wonder and to learn more about our planet. At NSG, we create a rounded awareness of the inter-relationship between human and physical features and how these can be applied on a global, regional and local scale. We take students beyond their own experience, beyond the classroom to expand and develop their knowledge of the world, of places, environments, cultures and people.

We make Geography fun and exciting, with a high level of engagement. We encourage students to stretch and challenge their learning through asking

geographical questions in order to deepen their thinking. Our curriculum enables learners to be confident in their understanding and to ask questions about the world around them. Geography at NSG prepares students with academic, technical and life skills that can be applied across all subject disciplines, beyond Key Stage 3 and also beyond the academic environment.

Geography is one of the English Baccalaureate subjects so it is also highly regarded by further education establishments and employers. A background in Geography can lead to careers such as cartography, conservation, environmental management, urban design or architecture.

Implementation

In Geography we develop and practise skills through a range of teaching and learning activities from higher order question, classroom discussion and debate, working with sources, metacognition and retrieval practice.



Key Stage 3 topics

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
Where in the World? Map Reading Skills Rocks, Rivers and Weathering * Urbanisation * Weather and Climate	* Population Dynamics Geography of Politics Coastal Processes & Landforms * Ecosystems * Tropical Rainforests	Economics and Development Geography of Disease * Natural Hazards * Sustainable Futures Making Geographical Decisions

* Indicates topics that are assessed

Key Stage 4 Topics

YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Climate Change Weather Hazards Tectonic Hazards Ecosystems: Tropical Rainforests Ecosystems: Cold Environments Rivers Coasts Physical Fieldwork (Bradlaugh Fields)	Resources Energy Management Urban Issues and Challenges Changing Economic World Human Fieldwork (Urban)

Assessment

Students at KS3 are assessed termly on both knowledge, understanding and their application of skills, through a range of assessments. The data are then used to track progress throughout the course of the year and also to create flight paths that can be used to predict students' progress at the end of Key Stage 4. Throughout KS4, students are assessed after every topic to help consolidate learning whilst preparing them for their end of year examinations. All assessments are used to identify how students can improve and advance their progress, this is shared with students through our marking and feedback system.

Independent Learning

As Geography is a subject that is all around us on a day to day basis we encourage our students to keep up to date with the local, national and international news to broaden their understanding of Geography. Other independent learning tasks may be issued if appropriate to further their understanding.

Home Learning tasks are set every 2 weeks for Year 7 and Year 8 students. Year 9 and GCSE students are set weekly Home Learning activities. Home Learning aims to reinforce and build on the knowledge and understanding that has been learnt in lessons, thus giving students the time and opportunity to research topics and issues in greater depth.

In this section you can find a copy of every Knowledge Organiser for every topic for each year group. These are useful for students to have a summary of the geographical content that has been learnt throughout the course of the year.