

BARTON MANOR SCHOOL – Geography

Facilities

The Geography Department has a suite of 4 classrooms on the first and second floors of our spacious new building each equipped with the latest Smartboard. Teachers make full use of the SMART notebook software and use a range of other software packages to make lessons interactive and dynamic. ICT rooms are bookable for independent study in lessons.

At KS3 students are banded according to their ability and taught in these groups.

Teachers will follow the BCAT shape of a lesson using hierarchical learning objectives, including a do now activity, differentiated practice and mini-plenaries to review learning. Lessons should include a variety of activities to promote active learning as well as demonstration by examples, question and answer sessions, discussion and practice. Regular homework is set based on prior learning and marked regularly.

Key Stage 3 – Geography

KS3 Geography is delivered through three 60 minute lessons per fortnight, and one homework per week. Topics covered include Hazards, the UK, Dynamic landscapes, Geography Skills as well as investigating World Environments. The topics explored allow students to build a core knowledge that provides a solid geographical understanding. They provide a breadth and depth, within the subject, ensuring that pupils can apply subject knowledge in a variety of techniques. The topics covered provide a 'thirst for knowledge' KS3 curriculum. A number of the topics allow for British Values and empathy to be embedded within the KS3 curriculum. There are cross curricular links with History, Science, English, Mathematics and RE. There are six summative assessments, each based around the themes of study and using the same command words as those found in the GCSE assessments. Students are rewarded through the awarding of BMS points, in line with whole School policy.

Aims:

- The aim of the KS3 curriculum at Barton Manor is to give students a broad synthesis of a range of human and physical geography topics, which will help them to understand and interpret contemporary issues, and their place within local, regional and global contexts.
- The curriculum aims to be as relevant as possible to the students' lives and lived experiences, allowing them to make sense of local issues and environments, and how they link to wider concepts such as sustainability and resource management.
- Students will acquire the skills to interpret and make sense of global issues and processes (e.g. global warming) and their impact on a regional and local scale, including how their own lives will be affected by them.
- Students will gain a broad understanding of geographical enquiry, including fieldwork skills, and how to formulate, test and validate research hypotheses.
- Students will undertake a 'spiral curriculum' in geography to ensure they are familiarised with the expectations at GCSE level, if they decide to opt for geography.

Content Learnt Year 7:

1. Introduction to Geography:
2. Weather and climate
3. Planets Natural Resources
4. Economy
5. The Geography of Russia
6. Development

Content Learnt Year 8:

1. UK Landscapes; Rivers, Coasts and Glaciers
2. Changing World: Population and Migration
3. Hazards

Next 3 topics split over terms 4 and 5

- 4a. Asia (Mini topic split over 2 terms)
- 4b. Middle East (Mini topic split over 2 terms)
- 4c. Africa (Mini topic split over 2 terms)
 - Synoptic links between Africa, Middle East and Asia
5. Future Planet

Content Learnt Year 9:

1. Natural hazards and Tectonics
2. Weather Hazards
3. Ecosystems and Rainforests
4. Hot Deserts
5. Resource management in the UK
6. Global Supply of Food

Key Stage 4

The KS4 Curriculum is currently being developed for commencement in 2025.

Key Stage 5

A joint Sixth Form with Barton Court Grammar School is planned and suitable courses post-16 will be discussed and agreed with the Geography Department nearer the time.

Staffing

Currently, the department is led in collaboration with staff at Barton Court Grammar School (BCGS) to ensure consistency of standards and provide additional support. There are three specialists and two non-specialists who work together to deliver Geography at KS3. Ultimately, over time staff will move to work solely within their own specialisms, as the School expands.