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**GEOGRAPHY AT THE BOURNE ACADEMY**

**Key Stage 3**

The geography topics studied at Key Stage 3 hope to create a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Geography lessons will equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth’s key physical and human processes. Students will develop their geographical knowledge, understanding and skills that provide a framework to explain how the Earth’s features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

From Year 7, our students are taught basic geographical skills and knowledge in each topic, which are expanded and developed throughout Years 8 and 9 in preparation for GCSE’s in Key Stage 4. Topics that are covered include; map skills, ecosystems, tourism, coasts, development, climate change and natural hazards.

**Key Stage 4**

The main focus for studies in Key Stage 4 is that of preparing the students to take their GCSE exams.

All students are taught the principals behind a geographical study; from designing an investigation right through to interpreting and presenting their data, to inevitably drawing conclusions from their observations and recordings through their controlled coursework.

Main topics covered are as follows:

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| * **Core:**
 | **Physical** | **Water** – What are river processes and what landforms do they create? How should river be managed?  |
|  |  | **Climate change** – What are the causes and evidence for climate change? What are the alternative futures?  |
|  |  | **Living in an active zone** – Why are plate margins hazardous? How can the risks associated with volcanic and earthquake zones be reduced? |
|  | **Human** | **Changing Populations** – Where do people live? What will happen to the world population? |
|  |  | **Globalisation** – What is globalisation? What are the impacts of globalisation on countries at different levels of development? |
|  |  | **Development** – How are global patterns of development identified? What progress is being made towards achieving the Millennium development goals? |

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| * **Options:**
 | **Physical** | **Our Changing Coastline** – What are coastal processes and what landforms do they create? How are coasts managed? How should coastal environments be managed in the future?  |
|  |  | **Living things** – What are biomes are how do they differ? How are ecosystems managed? What are the likely consequences if ecosystems continue to be damaged?  |
|  | **Human** | **Tourism** – Why does the nature of tourism differ between one place and another? What are the impacts of tourism? How can tourism be developed in a sustainable fashion?  |

**Field Trips & Outreach**

Throughout Key Stage 4, we have opportunities for students to participate in field trips. Over the past year our students have; visited Highcliffe and Barton on Sea to look at the impacts of coastal erosion; students completed a geographical study of the impacts of tourism along the Jurassic coast; as well looking into the impacts of sea level rise on locations such as Hengistbury Head.

As part of the Key Stage 3 Gifted and Talented STARS trip to Swanage, students took part in a geographical enquiry where they had to design an investigation, interpret and present their data about the habitats and importance of Old Harry Rocks.

**Where Can Geography Lead You?**

The study of geography can lead you to a variety of paths in further education as well as various job opportunities. Job areas, and degree options, which involve geographic knowledge, include: Earth & the environment; landscape architecture; travel consultancy; geology; meteorology; nature conservation; forestry; town and housing planning; waste management; hydrography; oceanography and many more.

Whether studying for, or working within the geography industry you can be sure that it can give you opportunities to see the world and make a difference!

Please email the Subject Leader louise.harding@thebourneacademy.com if you have any questions about the curriculum or about your child’s progress during the year.