**Geography**

Geography underpins a lifelong ‘conversation’ about the earth as the home of humankind and helps to classify a complex world. At The Bourne Academy we aim to:

* Develop students' ability to “think like a geographer”, and to understand how the physical and human worlds are entwined
* To bring students an acute awareness of contemporary challenges and encourage them to question existing knowledge
* To shape students into lifelong geographers who will have a lifelong curiosity about our world.

**KS3**

Within KS3, geography is taught using a spiral curriculum which allows students to study concepts through the lens of different places. Students develop knowledge of places, people, resources, and natural and human environments. Student learning acts as the basis on which understanding of the human and physical processes that create places and shape landscapes must be developed. The concepts that underpin geography include space, place, time, sustainability, scale, and interdependence.

The Bourne Academy curriculum is broken into several units including:

* Awe and Wonder – The Grand Canyon, Lake Baikal, Antarctica, Thailand
* Oceania and Southeast Asia – The Taal Eruption, The Boxing Day Tsunami
* Climate Emergency – The Maldives, The UK, The Arctic & Antarctica
* Superpowers – superpower countries; UK, BRICs, Europe, Asia
* UK – Landscapes, scale, map symbols, direction
* Arctic Circle and Antarctica

**KS4**

Students are examined at the end of year 11, completing GCSE Georgraphy 9-1 with the exam board AQA. The students complete three papers,

Paper 1 - 1 hr 30 minutes (35%)

Paper 2 - 1 hr 30 minutes (35%)

Paper 3 – 1 hr 30 minutes (30%). Paper 3 is unique by containing an Issue Evaluation or “seen material”, a resource booklet will be available twelve weeks before the date of the exam so that students can work through the resources, enabling them to become familiar with the material.

Geography is assessed in three skill-based strands: A01 Knowledge and Understanding, A02 Application of knowledge, AO3 Evaluation, and AO4 Select, adapt, and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings. By the end of the course, students need to complete two geographical enquiries, each of which must include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise. At the Bourne Academy students will have a variety of fieldwork opportunities in coastal and urban locations.

The GCSE topics taught include:

* **The Challenge of Natural Hazards** students will study natural hazards such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and volcanic eruptions, and learn about the ways in which people can reduce the risks associated with these hazards.
* **The Living World** – covers topics related to the natural environment, including ecosystems, biodiversity, and climate change.
* **Physical Landscapes** - physical landscapes of the UK, including rivers, coasts, and mountains.
* **Urban issues and Challenges** - refers to the problems and challenges that cities and urban areas face
* **Changing Economic World** - Patterns of economic development and growth
* **Resource Management** – the way in which natural resources such as water, energy and food is distributed and used around the world
* **Fieldwork** - the opportunity for students to apply their knowledge and skills to a real-world context, and to develop the ability to analyse and interpret data to understand and explain geographical phenomena.
* **Issue Evaluation** - type of assignment or assessment that requires students to analyse and evaluate a particular geographical issue or problem.