



GEOGRAPHY

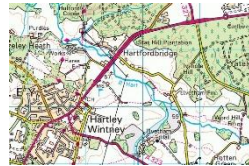
**Mrs. F. Archer (Head of Dept.); Mrs. N. Chauhan (Head of Dept.);
Mr. D. Cunningham; Mr. M. Dine and Mrs. R. Maguire**

KEY STAGE 3 - The Geography department deliver an exciting and engaging Key Stage 3 course for Cardinal Newman students. With a blend of both human and physical topics, students develop a detailed awareness of the world around them and their place and impact on the local, national and global environment. The course is designed to embed and develop the literacy and numeracy skills required for GCSE should the students decide to pursue the subject at Key Stage 4. Our overall aim is to use the Geography curriculum to provide our students with highly transferable skills that will fully equip them for further study but also for their future in the modern employment market. An overview of the curriculum is outlined below:

YEAR 7

The Year 7 curriculum covers the following units:

- **Geographical skills**
- **Weather & Climate**
- **Urbanisation**



These units link well to those on the GCSE specification providing a basic understanding. Within the curriculum, students will be able to develop their map and data interpretation skills. For example, students will learn how to read and interpret OS maps and how to describe data on charts such as climate graphs.

YEAR 8

The Year 8 curriculum covers the following units:

- **Rivers and Coasts**
- **Population**
- **World Issues**



Whilst also linking to the GCSE, these topics allow students to explore more topical Geographical themes such as overpopulation, global poverty and climate change. Students will learn how to develop and structure their extended writing skills using P-E-E-L paragraphing. They will also learn how to refer to evidence from a resource.

YEAR 9

From September 2019, students in Year 9 will be taught the Key Stage 4 Curriculum. This has the benefit of allowing more time to complete the GCSE course whilst also giving students the opportunity to make a more informed choice about whether they wish to continue with the subject at GCSE. Students will cover a range of topics which include Natural Hazards and Resource Management. At the end of the Autumn term, students who are keen, will be provided with an opportunity to attend a field trip to the Natural History Museum in London where they can take part in a tectonics workshop called 'Rocks the House' and where they can view the 'Restless Earth' exhibition. **Covid permitting.*

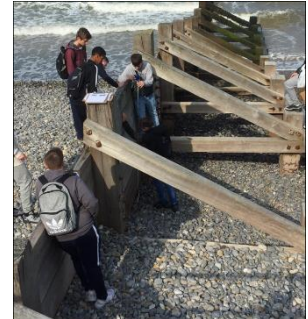


KEY STAGE 4 – The GCSE course builds upon the knowledge, understanding and skills developed in Years 7 - 9. As well as covering traditional geography topics such as river landscapes; coastal landscapes and ecosystems, the course also includes contemporary topics such as urbanisation, sustainability and economic change. This course gives students opportunities to:

- Develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts and appreciate the relevance of these concepts to our changing world
- Develop a framework of spatial awareness in which to appreciate the importance of place location (whether local or global)
- Appreciate the differences and similarities in people's views of the world and its environments, societies and cultures
- Understand the significance of values and attitudes to the development and resolution of world issues
- Develop their responsibility as global citizens and recognise how they can contribute to a future that is both sustainable and inclusive

DO STUDENTS GET TO DO FIELDWORK?

Yes...the best way to explore Geographical concepts is out in the field. Towards the end of Year 10, GCSE students will attend a compulsory field study to the coastal resort of Sheringham in Norfolk where they can explore the effectiveness of coastal management strategies and the impacts of tourism. The field study gives students a chance to collect primary and secondary data that they can use to prove or disprove a testable hypothesis. The knowledge and experience gained from the study helps to develop student's enquiry skills whilst also enabling them to answer the fieldwork component of the GCSE exam. **Covid permitting. This component of the course was cancelled this year by the exam board and the coursework component exam paper has been modified to accommodate this.*



WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is a broad-based academic degree which is well respected by employers. Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment post-university entering a wide range of careers which include the Foreign Office, the diplomatic service; the Rivers Authority; the Met Office, the Environment Agency, town planning; transport management; politics and even law.

WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT LIKE?

The department has a mix of experienced and newly qualified staff who are all committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for our students. Geography is an extremely popular subject at the school with a high uptake at both KS4 and KS5. With a proven track record of good results at both GCSE and A



Level, we are keen to sustain the high levels of achievement across the department and look forward to welcoming a new intake of students to the department come September.