

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Geography is a vital subject in an ever-changing world. It involves the study of our planet and humans' relationship with it. At Fitzharrys School we teach Geography to prepare our students to have an awareness of their environment, enabling them to understand our impact and how we can manage our lifestyles in a sustainable way.

### **KS3**

In Key Stage 3, students study a range of human and physical topics.

In Year 7, we focus on key skills such as mapwork and using different sources of data. We then study the Geography of the UK before investigating tropical rainforests, extreme climates and tourism.

In Year 8, students focus on Tectonic hazards, before investigating environmental issues and rivers. We then look at global issues such as population and migration, as well as the Geography of Africa. We finish with the Geography of Sport.

### **KS4/GCSE**

At GCSE level, we study the OCR Geography B specification: 'Geography for enquiring minds'.

This course is made up of 2 main units, with 3 exams at the end of the course.

Unit 1, our natural world, focusses on the natural world and how humans interact with it. In unit 2, people and society, the focus is on human geography. In both units the focus is on understanding physical and human processes, and then investigating how effectively humans work alongside nature, before coming up with sustainable solutions to problems.

Unit 1 – Our natural world	Unit 2 – People and society
1. Ecosystems	1. Urban futures
2. Natural Hazards	2. Development
3. UK landscapes	3. UK in the 21 <sup>st</sup> century
4. Climate Change	4. Natural resources

Each of these units is assessed in an individual exam, which will also test students' fieldwork skills. The third exam is a decision-making paper to test how students assess data and make Geographical decisions about a Geographical issue.

### **KS5/A level**

Students study the Edexcel Geography specification. This covers a wide range of topics and is an excellent grounding for either higher education or the world of work. Students will use literacy, numeracy and fieldwork skills and many others to study a range of issues from the global to local level.

Topics to be studied include: Tectonic processes, coastal landscapes, the water cycle, water insecurity, carbon cycle, energy security, globalisation, regeneration, superpowers, migration, identity and sovereignty.

### **Extra-Curricular Opportunities**

Fieldwork is an integral part of Geography at Fitzharrys School with trips planned at all key stages. Highlights include visiting Lulworth Cove in Year 9, rivers fieldwork in Year 10, urban fieldwork in year 11 and a residential in year 12.

The department has strong links with Abingdon School's Geography department, running research projects and using GIS (Geographical Information Systems) to develop a deeper understanding of issues in the UK.