

The deep dive geography experience: intent, implementation and impact

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A sample of our KS3 Rationale

KS3 follows the National Curriculum; the breadth of knowledge offered in Year 7 is wide, with ten short units all underpinned by sustainability. The sequence has been carefully designed to build on students' locational knowledge from local to global environments. Key ideas are interlinked through physical and human topics, allowing students to fully understand the processes and interactions within and between them, such that students want to become responsible citizens.

The breadth of knowledge in Year 8 is also wide, but with four larger sized units. This allows students to explore key ideas in depth, make more connections and practice skills. Key processes introduced in Year 7 are developed using detailed place exemplars. Climate change is introduced at the start of the year; subsequent units are tied together with this common thread, allowing further investigation of the complexity of this modern-day global challenge.

Awe and wonder topics have been introduced at the start of the year to raise interest and care about the world in which we live, whilst promoting a strong sense of citizenship.

Guided 'enquiry-based' learning/decision making exercises (DMEs) have been planned throughout the key stage as part of our 'issues-based' curriculum. Through 'real context' problem solving students develop their geographical knowledge, fully supporting the importance of geography in today's world, whilst practising geographical, independent and critical thinking skills. Overall, students are given opportunity to take action, enabling them to become responsible citizens that support sustainable futures.

Extract from our KS3 unit on Fantastic Places

