



St Benedict's Catholic School

The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk

GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM GUIDE

Year 9 Autumn

Topic 1: Who wants to be a billionaire?

Within this topic students will:

- Examine the spatial distribution of billionaires within Europe/Americas/Asia/Middle East/Australia and Africa
- Identify where the wealth of billionaires lies through the examination of the economic activities within the Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and Quaternary economic sectors
- Examine why some areas of the world are gaining wealth more rapidly than others through the benefits of globalisation.
- Investigate the increasing interdependence and connectivity between people through profiling the work of a female Chinese billionaire.
- Draw conclusions on whether the 'rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer' or whether the wealth of Billionaires is trickling down to poorer people within particular regions.

Assessment: The Variation in World wealth board game

Throughout the course of this topic students will consider the possible tensions between economic prosperity and social fairness, it will also raise important questions about the nature of global citizenship and the important role money plays within this.

Topic 2: Glaciation: From Past to Present

Within this topic students will:

- Be introduced to key geographical terminology e.g. cryosphere and draw distinctions between sea ice and ice shelves as well as polar and alpine climates
- Examine the different types of glaciers, their global distribution and how they work in shaping our landscape through erosion, transport and deposition
- Think like a geographer and read the glaciated landscape for clues as to why a landscape looks the way it does
- Examine geological timescales and the shifts within the climate comparing post glacial with the peak of the ice age and earlier times in earth's history.
- Draw clear links between change in glaciers in recent decades and the role of global warming and explain why shrinking glaciers matter for people.

Assessment: Individual assessment on the impacts of melting Ice on our world

Throughout the course of this topics students will also apply map skills, identify how to measure glacier's flow in the field and use the British Geological Survey's 'Geology of Britain Viewer' GIS

Year 9 Spring

Topic 3: Risky World

First half-term

Within this topic students will:

- Examine the spatial patterns of risk, the scale of risk and the influence of place on risk from a local to a global scale through the investigation of both human and physical factors such as:
- Compare the risk of crime and mortality on differing scales from local to global
- Investigate the social, economic, environmental and political processes which contribute to risk
- Identify why parts of the world are more vulnerable than we are in our local area to Climate Change
- Examine if our local area is becoming more risky, with specific focus on rising sea levels and flooding
- Draw conclusions on why risk differs for areas at different levels of development at both a regional and global scale and the role management plays in reducing this risk.

Assessment: Assessment of flooding risk for River Ouse in Bury St Edmunds

Throughout the course of this topic students will develop a clearer understanding on the interdependence of the physical and human dimensions of the environment and the need to participate in informed and responsible action to mitigate against these risks as global citizens.

Topic 4: China: One in a billion

Within this topic students will focus on:

- The geographical location and physical features of China through the use of various maps.
- How the country has transformed through the investigation of economic, environmental and social change
- China as an emerging superpower and increasing global interdependence
- Economic flows that feature Asian labour forces as producers of goods
- Growth of major cities e.g. Beijing, the rise in rural poverty and migration patterns within China.
- China's changing population as a resource or a curse.

Year 9 Summer

Complete the unit above from the second half of the spring term.

Assessment: Country Profile: Where do we fit in?

Throughout the course of this topic students will examine how the world is changing China and how China is changing the world. Students will continuously apply cartographic and graphical skills throughout this topic to aid further develop their knowledge of this vast country.

Topic 5: Mapping London From Past to Present

Within this topic students will focus on:

- How London was represented in the past
- What processes have changed London and how maps themselves have changed
- Differing views of London today – through the investigation of physical features represented on maps and human perceptions which exist today
- What maps of London will look like in the future

Assessment: Do you know London well enough to gain your London cabbie license?

Throughout the course of this topic students will take a journey through the way London has been presented and represented over the years. Along the way they will also examine a wide range of geographical themes as well as applying cartographic skills in determining the complex and constantly changing geography of London.