University of Birmingham School Curriculum Outline: GEOGRAPHY



Term Year	Term 1a	Term 1b	Term 2a	Term 2b	Term 3a	Term 3b
12	Coastal landscapes We'll explore different coastal landscapes and generate detailed understanding of the wide range of physical processes that create them. We'll also consider how our coastlines are at risk from coastal erosion and sea level change and what strategies can be put in place to manage those risks taking into account sustainability and a range of views from different stakeholders. Globalisation The increasing independence and interconnectedness between countries is studied. We consider how globalisation has changed over time, how it can be measured and 'switched-off' regions. The importance of TNCs and IGOs in the global economic system is reflected upon. The impacts of globalisation on culture, migration, economies and the environment are examined. We also analyse development measures and how the impacts of globalisation may be mitigated through sustainability and ethical consumption.		Shaping places How and why do places vary? How and why do different people's perceptions of a place vary? In this unit of work we'll also be contrasting two places in detail using GIS and statistical analysis. We'll then examine the need, purpose and measures of success of regeneration projects in a range of places around the world, including Selly Oak. Tectonic Processes and Hazards The structure of the Earth will be explored, including a number of plate tectonic theories. We study exactly how, why and where earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis and hotspots occur. When does a hazard become a disaster? The importance of planning, preparation and response to hazards, and linking this to levels of development is another focus.		Non-examined assessment Students will construct their own independent investigation worth 20% of their final mark. This will involve formulating a fieldwork hypothesis, primary and secondary data collection, data presentation, data analysis, drawing a conclusion and evaluation. This is an opportunity for students to utilise and develop their research and project management skills. Superpowers Through this human geography unit of study, we will examine the recent and current geopolitical dynamics around the world. Starting more than 300 years ago, we'll use historical knowledge to look at how colonialism directly impacted and influenced the world as we know it today. We'll examine how neo-colonial structures still impact many countries, with a focus on China's increasing influence on the world stage.	
13	Superpowers Continuing our study of geopolitics, we will examine how different countries use different techniques and influence to remain in key positions within global politics and economics. Examining contested borders and regions forms a key part of this unit. We'll focus on multiple examples of countries across the world, from North America to Africa to Asia. Physical systems and sustainability Fundamental to human and environmental wellbeing are the systems keeping everything in balance. The water and carbon cycles help maintain		Sovereignty, migration and identity Throughout human history, people have migrated to improve their quality of life and to escape hardship and hazard. We'll examine the historical and modern-day reasons for these patterns of movement across the globe, linking closely to other A Level topics of Globalisation and Superpowers to help us understand these patterns and the impacts they have had around the world. We'll also examine how IGOs have worked to support different Paper 3 To be a superb geographer, being able to link all of the pieces of knowledge			
	precious resources we couldn't survive without, we will investigate the inputs, fluxes and processes within these cycles, taking a systems approach to geography. Then, we will look at how human actions degrade and alter both cycles and the global, regional and local issues threatening their functionality before studying innovative solutions to fix Planet Earth!		together all the way from tectonics through to superpowers and the carbon cycle, is crucial in understanding the world we live in. To end your 7-year geography journey with us, we will look at overarching themes such as sustainability and globalisation that knit together every piece of the puzzle.			