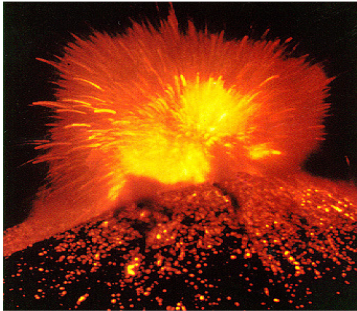


GCSE Geography at Great Sankey High School



Our Geography Department is following the OCR Specification B syllabus as it is an interesting course which appeals to a huge range of our learners. If you are the type of student who is passionate about current affairs and is fascinated by the changes which are constantly happening to our planet, then this may be the course for you!



Over the two year course, you will study 4 different themes:

- Theme 1 – Rivers and Coasts
- Theme 2 – Population and Settlement
- Theme 3 – Natural Hazards
- Theme 4 – Economic Development



How will I be assessed?

You will be internally assessed at the end of each unit by your teacher in order to keep track on your progress within the subject. You will also need to do the following assessments which are set by the exam board:

1. *Sustainable Decision Making* (worth 25%) – this is a 1 hour written examination and involves you making an informed decision based on a given topic. You will be given a Resource Booklet in advance of the exam, which will help you to prepare thoroughly.
2. *Geographical Enquiry* (worth 25%) – you will carry out two enquiries and will need to do a write-up on each under controlled conditions within class. The first write-up is a fieldwork report which is 1200 words maximum, the second write-up is a geographical investigation which is 800 words maximum.
3. *Key Geographical Themes* (worth 50%) – this is an hour and a half examination which will feature questions on three of the four themes listed above.

What opportunities will I have if I take GCSE Geography?



There will be several opportunities for you to develop your enquiry skills by going out on field trips! With previous GCSE groups, we have visited Formby sand dunes and carried out microclimate investigations; we have also travelled to the quaint village of Malham in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and examined the advantages and disadvantages of tourism on a honeypot area, such as Malham.

There is also the opportunity for you to attend our Geography residential trips – in Easter 2009, our students visited the spectacular country of Iceland and saw sites of complete 'awe and wonder' such as the Blue Lagoon geothermal springs, a glacier and spectacular waterfalls. For Easter 2010, we are travelling to Naples in Italy to visit the historic site of Pompeii, which was famously buried by the volcanic eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79AD!

Why should I study GCSE Geography?

If you are still considering whether or not Geography is an important and relevant subject for the 21st Century, then just consider the following information... and make your own mind up!!

Geography is a subject which helps us to know and understand the world in which we live. It helps us to understand how people and environments are constantly changing. Geography helps us to understand these changes through interaction; spatial difference; themes; issues and a deep study of places.

Geography provides us with the ability to know and understand our world.

Geography gives us knowledge and understanding through mapping the world; talking about the world and thinking about the future.



Who is it that decides our future?

We live in changing times – presently; global information is doubling every single day. More text messages are sent each day, than there are people in the world! There are now 540,000 words in the English language alone – that is 5 times more than during Shakespeare's time!

Geography takes us near and far, it focuses on change; it addresses sustainable development; it looks at global warming; it helps us strive for a better future

**GEOGRAPHY HAS NEVER
MATTERED MORE...**