

Geography

Year 7

Students will complete geography homework booklets as per the schedule.

Year 8

Homework in Year 8 is set every other week. In the allocated week for geography, pupils will be set a task. This task will refer to learning taking place at that time and so will link to the topic directly. The task may not however, be directly relevant to the lesson/s that week but may require pupils to retrieve prior learning from their memory. The task will appear on Showbie and will be expected to be completed on there in readiness for review the following week. Pupils may be asked to repeat the task or a similar task or will be tested on the content of that homework therefore it is vital that the task is completed. It will also be recommended that the task is completed as close to the date set rather than the due date. This is an opportunity to test how well pupils can remember key knowledge. Initially, this will be difficult for pupils however, over time, they will become more familiar with the type of tasks and the knowledge will be better retained. It may also be the case that a homework task is repeated later on in the term to help retain the knowledge further.

Year 9

Homework in year 9 is set once a week. Pupils will be expected to undertake a variety of tasks. Tasks will include, planning and preparing answers for longer style questions set on content being covered at that point in time or will be a knowledge retrieval task. We specifically encourage revision to take place continuously to help support knowledge retention. We would ask pupils to create mind maps, knowledge organisers, revision clocks and Quizlet cards/flash cards based on what they have covered in lessons. There may also be opportunities for pupils to carry out 'pre reading' whereby they must read up on the next lesson and be prepared to contribute before they have been officially 'taught' the content. This also supports independent learning and skills which are vital to both GCSE and A Level Geography. Pupils will be expected to complete work either in their workbooks or in Showbie if it is to be completed to support classroom work or online via Quizlet or as revision notes for their revision folder.

Year 10

The two main aims of homework in Year 10 are 1) Knowledge retention through revision and 2) developing exam skills through the planning and answering of past GCSE questions. Homework in Year 10 is set in the same way as it is in Year 9, once a week with various tasks being undertaken. In Year 10 however, pupils can expect to see past GCSE exam questions more frequently. GCSE questions for homework are commonplace in Year 10 and it may be that the planning for these takes place in the lesson and pupils then answer at home. As the Year progresses, some of the support for the homework GCSE questions will be removed gradually to

ensure pupils are becoming independent in these tasks. Pupils will be expected to plan their own answers and then answer these questions as the end of Year 10 approaches. Revision is also continuous throughout year 10 and we provide pupils with revision folders and support with revision. We expect pupils to prepare in their homework time for end of topic assessments and any other assessments which may appear in the year. GCSE questions set as homework will be varied and challenging and could also ask pupils to look back over previous learning to answer the question/s.

Year 11

The main aims of homework in Year 11 are similar to those in Year 10 where exam skills are further developed, and knowledge retention is carried out through regular set revision tasks. In Year 11 pupils will be set GCSE questions for homework on a regular basis. These will form the main part of the homework along with revision. Support material are provided to enable pupils to revise effectively and regular low stakes testing is carried out to ensure revision is taking place. Pupils are encouraged to look back over prior learning from previous years to ensure variety and some level of interleaving (the process of revising and looking back over topics different to the one being worked on at present). There is a greater level of independence required in Year 11 when answering GCSE questions and pupils are expected to plan their own answers and then answer them fully without support and under timed conditions. Homework time is also allocated to pupils to prepare for end of topic tests and whole school assessment points to ensure pupils are best prepared for these exams. GCSE questions set in Year 11 could cover ANY aspect of the GCSE specification up to that point again to support knowledge recall and a more synoptic approach (rather than topics being stand alone and not relating to each other).

Year 12 and 13

At A Level, homework remains varied and challenging and we introduce Independent Study to help broaden student's general geographical knowledge. This also helps prepare for Further Education as learners need to become more independent. Independent study requires pupils to read around the subjects studied at A Level. Their class teacher will provide a range of resources to help this. These include podcasts, documentaries, newspaper articles, books and films. We expect pupils to carry out some independent learning for both physical and human geography each week and they must keep a tracker sheet up to date to show their class teacher what they have done. This is a great way of checking that reading around the subject is being done as well as this forming part of discussions in lessons with other pupils. In addition to independent study, pupils will be given homework regularly. Homework will consist of planning and preparing answers to A Level questions based on the content being studied at that time as well as pre reading in readiness for an upcoming lesson. Other homework may require pupils to research around a theme or a topic and prepare a presentation for the rest of the group. There are times also when pupils need to work as a team and will be expected to meet up in person or virtually to prepare work for the next lesson.