

<u>Overview Document</u> <u>2026/27</u>	Curriculum Area: <u>Geography</u>	Year Group: <u>8</u>
	Personnel Responsible: <u>HAN</u>	Quality Assured by: <u>RDE</u>

Cycle	Topic/Unit Title – <i>Big Question</i>	Content Coverage	Skill Development and Links to Other Areas of This Subject's Curriculum
1/2	How Does Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?	This unit covers the key physical geographical concepts behind weather, such as: measuring the weather; high and low pressure systems; global atmospheric circulation. It then looks at how weather and climate affect human activities, focusing on the hottest, wettest and coldest inhabited locations. Finally, the topic looks at our weather futures, and how a changing climate may impact the Earth. A number of global locations are studied as part of this unit, including the UK, Russia, Ethiopia and India.	This topic covers a number of aspects of the Key Stage 3 Geography National Curriculum. Students will learn key physical concepts which will be built upon in later study such as Year 10 'The Challenge of Natural Hazards' unit. Key geographical skills such as statistical analysis will be developed and students will also complete a fieldwork microclimate enquiry on the school grounds.
3/4	How Is Africa a Continent of Contrasts?	This topic focuses on the theme of Africa. Students will study a number of locations in Africa (such as the Congo Rainforest, the Sahara Desert, Kenya, Nigeria and Ghana) and dispel common misconceptions about the continent. Key content includes: biomes within Africa; a study of a tropical rainforest; desert and savannah areas. Human geography is interleaved in the scheme for learning including the development gap, impacts of tourism and globalisation.	This unit links to Cycle 1/2 of Year 8 Geography in many aspects. When studying biomes students will link this to their understanding of global atmospheric circulation and climates, we also look at the impact of climate change in Africa where desertification is a challenge. Geographical skills are developed throughout the topic, such as map skills, statistical skills and interpretation of photographs.