

<u>Overview Document</u> <u>2026/2027</u>	Curriculum Area: Geography	Year Group: 9 (ACE)
	Personnel Responsible: PPR	Quality Assured by: EGY

Cycle	Topic/Unit Title – Big Question	Content Coverage	Skill Development and Links to Other Areas of This Subject's Curriculum
1/2	What Are the World's Dynamic Places?	This topic focusses on how different global locations are constantly changing due to physical processes and the implications this may have on human activity. Key areas of study include coastal environments, tectonically active areas, megacities, squatter settlements, and cities of the future. A variety of key locations are studied during the unit, including the UK, Cameroon, USA, Japan, Brazil and Saudi Arabia.	This geography unit develops students' understanding of the world through a structured exploration of locational knowledge, geographical concepts and key fieldwork skills. Students begin by revisiting prior learning from KS2, including the seven continents, five oceans and the location of the United Kingdom, while also consolidating their understanding of the differences between human, physical and environmental geography. They build on this foundation by studying the location of regions such as Europe, South America and Asia, identifying key countries and significant features, including Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, India and the River Ganges. Through these studies, students develop a secure awareness of global geography and how different places are connected. Alongside locational knowledge, students develop practical geographical skills, including using atlases, applying 8-point compass directions, and interpreting four-figure grid references, latitude and longitude. These skills are applied in meaningful contexts as students explore rivers, biomes and varied physical landscapes, with a particular focus on India and its contrasts with the UK. Students investigate tropical rainforests, hot deserts and mountain ranges such as the Himalayas, and learn to interpret climate graphs to understand environmental patterns. The unit culminates in students demonstrating their understanding of key concepts across all strands of geography, combining place knowledge, mapping

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			skills and geographical enquiry to show a well-rounded understanding of the subject.
3/4	What Are the Biggest Threats to Humanity?	The final topic of Key Stage 3 Geography brings several key geographical concepts together and looks at the Earth's biggest challenges. Topics that are studied include a variety of human, physical and environmental geographical theories such as: population; resource management (including food, water and energy resources); plastic; climate change; conflict. Students will learn about a variety of case study locations including Russia, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, The Maldives and more.	This geography unit develops students' understanding of the United Kingdom and the wider British Isles through an exploration of both physical and human processes. Students begin by securing their locational knowledge, identifying the countries of the UK—England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland—as well as the Republic of Ireland, and placing the British Isles within a European context. They explore surrounding seas and oceans, as well as the major upland and lowland regions, using atlases to strengthen their mapping and enquiry skills. Students then deepen their understanding of physical geography by studying the geology of the UK, including the differences between igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, and the processes of weathering and erosion, such as freeze-thaw weathering. They examine how landscapes have been shaped over time, including the role of glaciers in forming landforms. A key focus is placed on rivers, where students learn about river basin features such as the source, tributary, confluence and mouth, and how rivers change from their upper to lower courses. They explore how meanders form through erosion and deposition and investigate real-life examples, including the River Severn. The unit also explores the causes and impacts of flooding, considering both physical factors, such as heavy rainfall and relief, and human influences, including land use and deforestation. Through case studies,

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			students examine how flooding affects communities, particularly in low-lying areas, and analyse events along the River Severn. In addition, students are introduced to human geography through the study of migration and immigration to the UK, using data, statistics and graphs to interpret patterns and trends. The unit concludes with students demonstrating their understanding of key geographical concepts across locational knowledge, place knowledge and fieldwork, ensuring a well-rounded and comprehensive grasp of the subject.
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