

Department Information:

*The geography department offers a range of topics that align with the KS3 National Curriculum, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the world. The unit on **What is Geography and Map Skills** introduces students to the fundamental concepts of geography, including the importance of maps and spatial awareness. They will develop essential map-reading skills and learn to interpret geographical data effectively.*

*Next, the topic on **Moving Stories (Migration)** explores the reasons behind human migration, its impacts on societies, and the cultural exchanges that result. Through case studies, students will analyse both historical and contemporary migration patterns and their effects on communities.*

*The unit on **Rivers and Flooding** examines the processes that shape river systems, the benefits they provide, and the challenges posed by flooding. Students will study river management strategies and the environmental and social implications of flooding events.*

*Finally, the topic on **Pole to Pole** focuses on explorers and countries around the world, encouraging students to understand the diverse cultures, environments, and experiences encountered in different regions. This exploration enhances their global awareness and appreciation for geographic diversity. Through these topics, students gain essential knowledge and skills to address important geographical issues and understand the complexities of our world.*

ACHIEVE in the curriculum:

The Geography Department at Furze Platt fosters excellence by encouraging students to be ambitious, collaborative, and happy. It promotes integrity through ethical practices and environmental respect, while teaching endurance and versatility to navigate challenges. This holistic approach prepares students to achieve their best in both academics and life.

Curriculum Aims & Intent:

The intent of the KS3 National Curriculum for Geography is to provide students with a foundational understanding of the physical and human processes that shape our world. It encourages critical thinking and inquiry skills, enabling students to analyse geographical data and issues. The curriculum fosters awareness of global challenges, such as climate change and sustainability, and their local implications. By promoting engagement with diverse cultures and environments, it aims to inspire respect and responsibility. Ultimately, the curriculum equips students for future learning and encourages informed, responsible citizenship in a changing world.

<https://shorturl.at/a0aGa>

Resources:

All lessons and resources are found in the Geography KS3 Year 9 resources.

How we keep parents informed:

Year 7 - Progress reports are published 4 times per year, in October, December, April and July, with a face-to-face parents' evening in May.

Parental phone call where appropriate

How parents can help their child:

Parents can support their child with KS3 Geography at home in several effective ways. Encouraging exploration through family trips to local parks, coastlines, or cultural sites allows students to observe geographical features and discuss their significance. Engaging in conversations about global issues, such as climate change or globalisation, helps connect classroom learning to real-world contexts. Supporting research projects by assisting with resource gathering—whether through books, documentaries, or reputable websites—can enhance understanding.

Additionally, parents can promote the use of technology by encouraging educational apps and websites that offer interactive maps, geography quizzes, and virtual field trips. Practicing map skills together, whether through atlases or

online mapping tools, enhances spatial awareness and navigational abilities. Fostering critical thinking by asking open-ended questions about geographical topics encourages students to articulate their ideas. Finally, discussing local environmental issues and sustainability practices can help children understand their role in caring for the planet. By integrating these activities into daily life, parents can reinforce their child's learning and foster a deeper interest in geography.

What we study and when:					
Term	Unit, Topic Or Summary Of Work Covered	Knowledge, Understanding & Skills Developed	ACHIEVE / Personal Development Focus	How The Work Is Assessed	Careers Links
1	What is Geography and Map Skills	The intent of the KS3 topic on "What is Geography and Map Skills" is to introduce students to the foundational concepts of geography and the essential skills needed to navigate and interpret spatial information. Students will learn about the different branches of geography, including physical and human geography, and understand the relevance of geography in everyday life. They will develop key map skills, such as reading topographic maps, interpreting symbols, and understanding scales. Additionally, students will explore geographical data representation through graphs and charts. This topic equips students with the knowledge and skills to analyse geographical information critically, fostering their ability to engage with various geographic contexts and issues.	See info above	Mid, and end of topic assessments, in class essay questions, comprehension, recall, and exam practice questions.	Careers related to geography and map skills are varied and cover fields such as urban planning, environmental management, cartography, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Geographers study spatial data to tackle issues like climate change, resource management, and city development. Cartographers design maps for different industries, while GIS specialists use technology to analyse and manage geographical data. These careers are essential for addressing global challenges and aiding decision-making in areas like transportation, public health, and emergency planning.
2 and 3	Moving Stories	The intent of the KS3 topic on "Moving Stories (Migration)" is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the causes and effects of human migration, as well as its social, cultural, and economic impacts on communities. Students will explore historical and contemporary migration patterns, examining factors such as war, economic opportunity, and environmental change that drive people to move. They will develop knowledge of the challenges faced by migrants and the benefits of cultural exchange. Through case	See info above	Mid, and end of topic assessments, in class essay questions, comprehension, recall, and exam practice questions.	Careers linked to migration and migrant stories are found in fields like social work, international relations, human rights advocacy, and journalism. Professionals in these areas work to understand the causes and effects of migration, support migrants and refugees, and document their experiences. Social workers and humanitarian aid workers assist migrants in accessing resources, while policymakers address immigration laws and integration strategies. Journalists and researchers highlight

		studies and discussions, students will enhance their critical thinking and empathy as they analyse diverse perspectives on migration. This topic equips students with the skills to engage thoughtfully with complex global issues related to movement and settlement.			migrant stories, raising awareness about challenges faced during migration and the cultural contributions of migrants to their new communities. These careers play a crucial role in shaping public perceptions and policies on migration.
4 and 5	Rivers and Flooding	The intent of the KS3 topic on "Rivers and Flooding" is to provide students with a thorough understanding of river systems, their processes, and the challenges posed by flooding. Students will learn about the formation and characteristics of rivers, as well as the hydrological cycle and the impact of human activities on river environments. A field trip to Pangbourne, Berkshire, to study the River Thames will allow students to observe real-world examples of river management and the effects of flooding in the area. Through this hands-on experience, they will develop skills in data collection, observation, and analysis of environmental issues. This topic equips students with essential knowledge and critical thinking skills to understand the complexities of river systems and the importance of sustainable management practices.	See info above	Mid, and end of topic assessments, in class essay questions, comprehension, recall, and exam practice questions.	Careers related to rivers and flooding are found in fields like hydrology, environmental science, civil engineering, and disaster management. Hydrologists study the movement and distribution of water in rivers, while environmental scientists assess the impact of flooding on ecosystems and human communities. Civil engineers design flood control systems like dams and levees, while disaster management professionals develop strategies to predict, prevent, and respond to flooding events. These careers are essential for mitigating flood risks, protecting communities, and ensuring sustainable water management in flood-prone areas.
6	Pole to Pole	The intent of the KS3 topic on "Pole to Pole" is to engage students with the diverse cultures, environments, and historical explorations of different regions around the world. Students will learn about famous explorers and their journeys, as well as the geographic and cultural significance of various locations from the Arctic to the Antarctic. This topic encourages curiosity about global diversity and fosters an appreciation for the interconnectedness of people and places. Through research and presentations, students will develop skills in critical thinking, geographical inquiry, and effective communication. Overall, this topic equips students with a broader worldview and a deeper understanding of the geographical and cultural richness of our planet.	See info above	Mid, and end of topic assessments, in class essay questions, comprehension, recall, and exam practice questions.	Careers linked to this topic on explorers and countries include roles in history, anthropology, geography, and tourism. Historians and researchers study the journeys of explorers, uncovering new insights into the discovery of lands, cultures, and trade routes. Anthropologists explore the impact of these explorations on indigenous cultures and societies. Geographers map and analyse the territories discovered by explorers, while professionals in tourism and cultural heritage help preserve and share the stories of these explorers and their influence on different countries. These careers play a key role in understanding global history and cultural exchange.