



# Middlewich High School Geography Department – 5-Year Curriculum Map



<p><b>Year 7</b></p>	<p><b>Fantastic Places and Geographical Skills</b></p> <p><i>This unit aims to equip students with a solid foundation in key geographical concepts and practical skills. Students will gain an understanding of physical and human geography, through the study of sites of geographical significance. The unit involves developing map skills, including the use of grid references, understanding how geographers represent height and shape on maps, and grasping the importance of scale. Students will also develop the ability to identify and sketch geographical features, measure distances on complex maps, and use maps to plan routes.</i></p>	<p><b>Shaping Britain: The Natural Forces Behind the UK's Landscape</b></p> <p><i>This geography unit aims to explore the diverse landscapes of the United Kingdom. Students will investigate the UK's connections with Europe and its global role. The unit delves into the formation processes of various landscapes, including limestone terrains, working landscapes, and mountainous regions. With a focus on relief, the unit seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of the geographical features that characterise the island nation.</i></p>	<p><b>Rivers in Action: Shaping Our Landscapes</b></p> <p><i>Students will explore the intricate processes within a drainage basin, investigate the evolution of rivers downstream, and understand erosion, transportation, and deposition of materials. The unit covers waterfall and meander formation, floodplain and levee development, and the significance of hydrographs. It culminates with an in-depth analysis of the causes and impacts of the 2015 flooding in Cumbria. The overarching goal is to equip students with a holistic understanding of river dynamics and effective management strategies in the context of environmental challenges.</i></p>	<p><b>Fieldwork: Is MHS at risk of flooding?</b></p> <p><i>This unit explores the fundamentals of geographical investigations. We learn why Geographers conduct investigations and how to craft effective enquiry questions. Students discover the importance of collecting and analysing data, minimising risks during fieldwork, and presenting findings professionally. Using Middlewich as a case study, we evaluate the school's flood risk. We focus on improving investigation methods and taking meaningful action based on our findings. Throughout, we develop skills in oracy and presenting like Geographers.</i></p>	<p><b>Our Home: Understanding the People and Cultures of the UK</b></p> <p><i>This unit explores fundamental geographical concepts, from population studies and the impacts of migration to variations in land use within towns. Students will investigate the dynamic world of work, analysing changing employment patterns, communication, and transport networks in the UK. The HS2 debate offers a contemporary lens on transportation and connectivity, while the unit concludes with a reflection on leisure and free time.</i></p>	
<p><b>Year 8</b></p>	<p><b>Urban Giants: Life in the World's largest Cities</b></p> <p><i>This unit focuses on the unstoppable global growth of cities, exploring the emergence of world cities and the dynamics of rural to urban migration. Students will investigate the locations of megacities and delve into the challenges faced by cities, such as Jakarta's sinking and the existence of squatter settlements. The unit also aims to understand the factors contributing to a city's sustainability, providing students with insights into the complex and evolving nature of urban landscapes on a global scale.</i></p>	<p><b>Weather in Motion: Understanding Climate and Forecasts</b></p> <p><i>This unit focuses on understanding the distinction between weather and climate, exploring the tools and methods used to measure weather, and examining the factors influencing temperature variations. Students will delve into the dynamic nature of the UK's weather, investigating rainfall patterns, extreme weather events like snowfall, and the impact of the urban heat island effect. Overall, the aims are to provide students with a comprehensive grasp of weather and climate concepts and to foster an awareness of their broader implications.</i></p>	<p><b>Fieldwork: Does MHS have a microclimate?</b></p> <p><i>Students learn why Geographers conduct investigations and how to craft effective enquiry questions. Students discover the importance of collecting and analysing data and presenting findings appropriately. Using Middlewich High School as a case study, students collect and analyse data to discover whether the school has a microclimate.</i></p>	<p><b>Life on Earth: Protecting our Ecosystems and Biodiversity</b></p> <p><i>This unit deepens students' understanding of the natural world, the interconnections within ecosystems, and the impact of human activities on the environment. It aims to foster critical thinking about sustainability, global food systems, and conservation efforts, encouraging students to appreciate and protect our planet's diverse biomes and species.</i></p>	<p><b>Ice Power: Glaciers and Their Impact</b></p> <p><i>This unit centres on the exploration of glaciers and their impact in shaping landscapes. Students will investigate the ways in which glaciers shape the world, examining the processes involved in glacial activity and how landscapes transform before, during, and after glaciation. The unit delves into the creation of landforms by glaciers and explores the landforms left behind when glaciers melt.</i></p>	<p><b>Powering Our Planet: The Energy Challenge</b></p> <p><i>This unit focuses on energy dynamics, exploring the UK's electricity demand, generation methods, and the role of oil in energy. Students will analyse Russia's impact on the global energy mix and investigate the UK's use of renewable energy. The unit concludes with a study on harnessing solar energy and discussions on the importance of embracing sustainability in our energy practices. The overarching aim is to provide students with an understanding of energy sources, their advantages and challenges, and the importance of sustainable practices.</i></p>

<b>Year 9</b>	<p><b>Global Issues: Tackling the World's Biggest Challenges</b></p> <p><i>This unit explores the intricate relationships between human activity, environmental challenges, and the Earth's natural systems. Topics span from the urgent effects of plastic pollution in oceans to the evidence of climate change. The importance of sustainable tourism, wilderness areas, and the delicate balance between human and physical processes in shaping landscapes is highlighted throughout.</i></p>	<p><b>Earth's Dynamic Forces: Our Physical World</b></p> <p><i>Students explore the physical geography of our world, covering both atmospheric and lithospheric processes. Topics include tectonic theory, tectonic hazards, plate boundaries, earthquakes, and tsunamis, with a focus on understanding causes, impacts, and responses. Strategies for reducing tectonic hazard risks are examined. Additionally, the unit explores global climate patterns and the causes and consequences of monsoons and tropical storms, offering a comprehensive overview of Earth's physical processes.</i></p>	<p><b>Coastal Wonders: Shaping Shores and Defending Coastlines</b></p> <p><i>This unit aims to explore the dynamic physical processes shaping coastlines. Students will investigate coastal landforms created by the erosion, transportation and deposition of sediment. The unit culminates in a detailed enquiry into the coastal management strategies employed in Holderness, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of coastal geography and its practical implications.</i></p>	<p><b>A Divided Planet: Wealth, Poverty, and Inequality</b></p> <p><i>This unit explores the theme of unequal global development, examining its measurement and causes and impacts. The unit extends to understanding global variations in health and also delves into ethical considerations of development-examining the fairness of trade. The overarching goal is to equip students with an understanding of global inequalities and empower them to critically assess and advocate for fairness in various aspects of development.</i></p>	<p><b>Fieldwork: Is MHS a Sustainable School?</b></p> <p><i>This unit explores the fundamentals of geographical investigations. We learn why Geographers conduct investigations and how to craft effective enquiry questions. Students discover the importance of collecting and analysing data, minimising risks during fieldwork, and presenting findings professionally. Using Middlewich as a case study, we evaluate the school's sustainability.</i></p>
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<b>Year 10</b>	<p><b>Natural Hazards and Tectonic Hazards</b></p> <p><i>The unit explores tectonic hazards, including definition, global distribution, and effects. Through case studies, students analyse varied responses, management strategies, and reasons for residing in high-risk zones.</i></p>	<p><b>The Changing Economic World: The Development Gap</b></p> <p><i>The unit aims to examine global inequalities in socio-economic development. Students understand how development is measured and tracked. The unit identifies the factors contributing to uneven development; consequences of uneven development; and explores strategies to reduce the gap (aid, trade and tourism).</i></p>	<p><b>NEE: Nigeria</b></p> <p><i>This Changing Economic World unit focuses on Nigeria's economic shifts, exploring factors driving change, economic strategies, and consequences. Through a case study lens, it analyses Nigeria's global and regional importance, political, social, cultural, and environmental context, industrial structure, TNC influence, and effects on quality of life.</i></p>	<p><b>Ecosystems and Tropical Rainforests</b></p> <p><i>Students explore interactions between biotic and abiotic components and interactions / interrelationships at various scales. Students then learn the distinctive characteristics of TRFs, including adaptation. The economic and the environmental impact of deforestation is explored with a case study on causes and effects, and sustainable management strategies.</i></p>	<p><b>Urban issues and Challenges: Rio de Janeiro</b></p> <p><i>This unit explores the issues, opportunities and challenges of Rio de Janeiro's (NEE city) urban growth. It covers the city's regional importance, causes of growth, and impacts on social, economic, and environmental aspects. The study also showcases urban planning initiatives improving the quality of life for the urban poor.</i></p>	<p><b>The Challenges of Resource Management Energy</b></p> <p><i>The unit aims to examine the crucial role of food, water, and energy in human development, addressing global inequalities of supply and accessibility. It focuses on the UK's changing energy resource dynamics, including challenges and opportunities, and explores strategies for sustainable energy and resource management.</i></p>	<p><b>River Landscapes in the UK</b></p> <p><i>The River Landscapes unit studies changes in river valleys, exploring profiles and fluvial processes. It identifies fluvial landforms from erosion and deposition, using a UK example. The Flooding Management section examines flood risk factors, strategies (hard and soft engineering), and features a UK scheme with its necessity, strategy, and impacts.</i></p>	<p><b>Physical Fieldwork: How do rivers change along their long course profile?</b></p> <p><i>Fieldwork unit aims to develop inquiry skills, emphasising question formulation, data source selection, and risk management. It focuses on distinguishing primary/secondary data, diverse measurement methods, and effective data presentation. Encourages analysis, evidence-based conclusions, and critical evaluation of the entire inquiry process.</i></p>
<b>Year 11</b>	<p><b>Urban issues and Challenges: Bristol and Freiburg</b></p>	<p><b>Human Fieldwork: What impact has urban regeneration</b></p>	<p><b>Weather Hazards and Climate Change</b></p>	<p><b>Hot Desert Environments</b></p>	<p><b>The Changing Economic World: The UK</b></p>	<p><b>Coastal Landscapes in the UK</b></p>	<p><b>Issue Evaluation: Pre Release Case Study</b></p>	

	<p><i>This unit explores UK urban change using Bristol as a case study, covering social, economic, and environmental aspects. It examines migration impacts, opportunities in culture and employment, and challenges like urban deprivation. A Bristol regeneration project is showcased. Urban sustainability is explored, emphasising resource management and conservation, and traffic congestion reduction strategies.</i></p>	<p><b>had upon Salford Quays?</b></p> <p><i>This Fieldwork unit aims to develop inquiry skills, emphasising question formulation, data source selection, and risk management. It focuses on distinguishing primary/secondary data, diverse measurement methods, and effective data presentation. Encourages analysis, evidence-based conclusions, and critical evaluation of the entire inquiry process.</i></p>	<p><i>The Weather Hazards unit aims to explore atmospheric circulation, emphasising tropical storms' causes, global distribution, and climate change impact. It covers the effects of tropical storms, analysing responses using a specific example, and addresses UK weather hazards, including recent extreme events. The unit examines climate change, focusing on its causes, evidence, and effects, while also exploring strategies for managing climate change through mitigation and adaptation.</i></p>	<p><i>Students explore physical characteristics, interdependence, and adaptations of plants, animals, and people in hot desert ecosystems. It examines opportunities and challenges in developing hot desert environments, covering mineral extraction, energy, farming, and tourism through a case study. The unit also addresses the risk of desertification in fringe areas.</i></p>	<p><i>This unit aims to analyse major shifts in the UK economy, considering causes like de-industrialization and globalisation. It explores the transition to a post-industrial economy, emphasising technology, services, and sustainability. The unit also examines social and economic changes in rural areas, infrastructure improvements, and strategies addressing regional disparities.</i></p>	<p><i>This unit explores UK coastal landscapes, emphasising physical processes, landform characteristics, and management strategies. It covers erosion and deposition features, evaluating both hard and soft engineering solutions and managed retreat.</i></p>	<p><i>The enquiry encourages understanding and application of case studies to unfamiliar contexts, analysing issues at different scales, and interpreting conflicting viewpoints. The focus is on creating reasoned justifications and judgments for proposed solutions, considering their impact on both people and the physical environment.</i></p>	
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