Geographical content and understanding

Topics students need to have a good understand of

1. River and glacial landscapes

2. Urban issues and challenges

3. Tectonic and weather hazards

4. The changing economic world

5. Ecosystems focusing on tropical rainforests and hot deserts

6. The challenge of resource management focusing on food

7. Field work investigation: river study and urban study

Students will need to know appropriate key terminology in order to describe and explain the geographical concepts within each topic with appropriate academic depth.

Students will need to know a range of case studies to help support their discussions of the topics covered. These case studies require a high level of content knowledge.

Within physical geography topics, students need to understand how processes bring about change in natural systems and vary over time and space. Within human geography topics, students will need to understand the interrelationships between different aspects of society at a range of scales, scales alongside the challenges and opportunities this creates. Throughout all topics students will also need an appreciation of the way in which the natural and human systems interact and thereby affect each other. Students should also be able to assess and evaluate the relative significa

Geographical skills

Fieldwork and enquiry skills

• How to select appropriate questions, locations and methods for fieldwork enquires, including risk assessment and sampling strategies.

• Gathering data using a range of methodologies

• Choosing appropriate ways to present data using both maps and graphs

• Interpreting and analysing data

• Identification of anomalies within data

• Drawing of conclusions referring to data

• Evaluation of methods, results and conclusions

Map skills

• Atlas maps

o Use of latitude and longitude

o Descriptions of patterns and distributions

o Analysing maps to pick out the interrelationships between human and physical factors

• Ordnance Survey maps

o Use of 4 and 6 figure grid references

o Use of scale to measure distance

o Understanding of compass points

o How to interpret maps to understand relief

o Ability to describe the characteristics of a place by interpreting an OS ma

Other geographical skills

• Interpret maps used to present data e.g. choropleth or dot maps

• Interpret and draw sketch maps and diagrams

• Interpret ground, aerial and satellite photographs

• Interpret cross sections and transects

• Interpret tables of data and graphs