KIMICHI SCHOOL WORCESTER · CURRICULUM JOURNEY

Geography

AQA GCSE Geography 8035

How Geography builds, year on year, from Lower School A to Upper Seniors

Lower School A
Year 7

- Malawi and China: place, people and development
- Locational knowledge and map skills

MILESTONE
Can read and use a map

Lower School B
Year 8

- Brazil, glaciers and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Data and graphical skills introduced

MILESTONE
First data enquiry

Inters
Year 9

- Mumbai, rivers and tectonics
- GCSE bridge; physical and human processes connected

MILESTONE
GCSE options decision

Lower Seniors
Year 10

- Case-study depth: living world, urban issues, resources
- Fieldwork skills; Welsh coastal fieldwork

MILESTONE
Fieldwork completed

Upper Seniors
Year 11

- Case-study consolidation and issue evaluation
- Synoptic revision, map and data skills, exam practice

MILESTONE
GCSE Geography

WITH MATHS
Data, graphs, sampling and statistics in fieldwork.

WITH SCIENCE
Climate, tectonics, rivers and ecosystems.

WITH HISTORY
Empire, migration, development and why places are as they are.

CONSTANT AT EVERY STAGE

Classes of no more than ten · Music at the heart · Personalised pathways · Every pupil performs · Named case studies, not a flat topic list

Every stage builds knowledge, skills, confidence and character — with music enriching learning all the way through.

INTENT — WHY WE TEACH IT

Geography at Kimichi builds locational knowledge, map, data and fieldwork skills, and an understanding of physical and human processes and how they connect. Content is taught through named case studies — Malawi, China, Brazil, Mumbai, London, Vietnam — and recurring big ideas, each studied through a disciplinary lens rather than as a flat topic list. It is the subject that most reliably takes a pupil out of the building, which for young people who have spent time unable to leave the house is not a small thing.

WHY THE SEQUENCE RUNS THIS WAY

Locational knowledge and map skills come first, because every later enquiry assumes them. Data and graphical skills are introduced at Lower School B alongside the statistics work in Maths. Inters connects physical and human processes explicitly, which is what the GCSE actually assesses. Fieldwork is placed in Year 10 so that the written fieldwork questions in Year 11 draw on something the pupil genuinely did.

WHAT IT BUILDS ON, AND WHAT IT LEADS TO

Builds on primary geography and on the data handling taught in Maths. Assumes no prior case-study knowledge. Leads to GCSE Geography (AQA 8035), and to A level Geography, environmental science, planning, and any route that values fieldwork and data literacy.

HOW IT IS ASSESSED

AQA GCSE Geography 8035. Retrieval every lesson against the named case studies. Map and data skills assessed separately and regularly, because they are examined across all papers. Fieldwork write-up assessed in Year 10. Full papers from the spring of Year 11.

ADAPTED FOR OUR PUPILS

Fieldwork is planned with individual needs in mind and risk-assessed for the pupils actually going, not just the destination. A pupil anxious about a residential is supported to attend a day visit instead rather than losing the content. Case studies are provided as knowledge organisers so the volume is finite and visible. Data work is supported jointly with the Maths teacher.

IMPACT — WHAT YOU WOULD SEE

Pupils who can locate places confidently and explain why they are as they are. Case-study detail recalled and used, rather than generic answers. Fieldwork completed and understood. Pupils who read a graph or a map without flinching.

WHAT HELPS AT HOME

Look at maps together — paper or digital. Talk about the weather properly. When you travel anywhere, however local, ask why the place looks the way it does. Fieldwork kit and a waterproof coat matter more than revision guides.