Grace Academy

Subject: Geography	Term: Summer 1 & 2

This term, we are studying…

Year	Topic(s)	Why this? Why now?
Year 7	Weather and Climate	Students will explore the key characteristics that make up the UK's and global weather. This includes concepts such as air masses, different types of rainfall and the rain shadow effect. Students will then create, and interpret, climate graphs for the UK. Students will explore the impacts of high- and low-pressure weather systems. Finally, students will explore the formation of tropical storms and the impacts of Hurricane Katrina.
Year 8	Tectonics	Students will be introduced to the basics of tectonic theory including convection currents and the different types of tectonic plate boundaries. Students will then explore the different types of volcano and how these impact monitoring and prediction methods. Students will then consider the question of if we should live close to volcanically active areas. Students will then look into how we plan and mitigate for earthquakes, before comparing the causes, impacts and responses to earthquakes in countries of differing levels of development.
Year 9	Urbanisation GCSE Unit 1: Tectonic hazards.	Students will then begin looking at the issues surrounding life in urban areas especially those in the UK. Students will begin to look at how site and situation impact the growth of cities and how this is seen in key models such as the Burgess Model. Students are then looking at the impacts of urban sprawl and counter-urbanisation on settlements in the UK (Liverpool). Finally, students will look at how we can live sustainably and what can be done to solve the housing crisis in Leicester. Pupils will begin to cover some of the GCSE topics found on Edexcel B. The first unit is tectonic hazards. Pupils begin by understanding the structure of the Earth and how tectonic plates move due to convection and slab-pull. Pupils will then be able to explain the formation of different tectonic features and the hazards associated with them. The main focus is on earthquakes and

		how these impact countries of differing levels of development. The main case studies are Haiti and Japan. Pupils will finally look at how to protect ourselves from tectonic hazards.
	Climate change and climate hazards	Pupils will recall key knowledge from Year 9 on climate change. They will be able explain the human and physical causes of climate change. Additionally, they will be able to describe the formation of high- and low-pressure weather systems and how this links to the Global Atmospheric circulation model. Pupils will then look at how tropical storms impact developing and development countries. Additionally, they will look at the responses and mitigation methods used by these different countries.
Year 10	Rivers	Year 11 are focusing on the key characteristics of a river system. This includes: upper, middle and lower courses. Students will explain how key features such as waterfalls and meanders and created through erosion and deposition. Students will also understand how flood hydrographs are impacted by human and physical factors such as urbanisation and geology. Students will then focus on the Somerset Floods (2014) and how we can manage river flooding. Students will also complete physical fieldwork at Carding Mill Valley **Links:** Urbanisation, geology
	UK's Human Landscape	Students will then begin their study of Edexcel B Paper 2 – UK Geographical Issues. Students will begin by exploring the changing population of the UK and how changes in different economic sectors are affecting this. Student will then look at the impact of globalisation on the UK. The focus then moves to an in-depth study of Birmingham. Students will consider the role migration plays in inequality and how Birmingham has changed since deindustrialisation. Students will then look a what can be done to rebrand, regenerate and make Birmingham more sustainable. Focus will then move to looking at how Birmingham interacts with the rural environment around it.

		Students will also undertake fieldwork in Birmingham as part of Component C of Paper 2.
Year 11	Revision	Year 11 are completing final revision for each exam paper before the commencement of the 2026 exam season.