

Geography

Geography at Parmiter's is taught to ensure young people are fully prepared with transferable skills, knowledge, and understanding to make sense of their world and to face the challenges that will shape our future societies and environments at local, national and global scales.

The courses studied at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 are designed to be forward-thinking and stimulate an interest in, and a sense of wonder about, human and natural places. We want to help young people understand our dynamic and rapidly changing world. It is not just about where places are and more about how places and landscapes evolve, how people and their environment interact, and how a diverse range of economies, societies and environments are interconnected.

At Key Stage 3, students are taught in mixed ability classes. The course includes map skills, tectonics, ecosystems, settlement, development, environmental degradation, sustainability, rivers, British Isles, weather and climate, tourism, population and migration. Students undertake studies into countries at different regional, national and global scales.

The theory is reinforced by field trips. At Key Stage 3, students currently enjoy trips to Whipsnade Zoo, which supports a unit of work on tropical rainforests, and the Natural History Museum to complement the unit of work on oceanography and marine conservation.

Geography is a very popular option at GCSE and classes are taught in mixed ability. Students study elements of the physical environment such as coasts, rivers, tectonics, climate change and water issues as well as elements of the human environment such as population, settlement, economic change, sustainable development and tourism. Students also develop key map, graphical and enquiry skills. The course includes a compulsory fieldtrip to reinforce learning from the classroom and allow for data collection for the assessed coursework task.

The department also runs optional residential trips that further supplement students' learning and broaden their geographical experiences. In recent years these have included trips to Iceland, Italy, Wales and the Alps