Geography Curriculum Map

Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy · Key Stage 3 & 4 (Years 7–11) · AQA GCSE Geography 8035

Progression spine: Describe → Explain → Evaluate, building the AQA assessment objectives across Key Stage 3.

Key — Categories: ■ Physical ■ Human ■ Place / Regional ■ Skills ■ Fieldwork / Paper 3 ■ Assessment

Threads (◆ unit tags + strip): ◆ Scale ◆ Diversity of place ◆ Interdependence

Year	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 7 Describe	**Passport to Geography** What is geography? Continents & oceans. Map skills: compass directions; 4-figure grid references. ◆ Scale	**Europe & Identity** Place & identity across scales (local ↔ continents); UK regions & counties; UK/EU context; case study; fieldwork. ◆ Diversity	**Weather & Climate** Measuring weather; climate graphs; the water cycle; global climate zones.	**Biomes** Global biomes & ecosystems; distribution; tropical rainforests; threats (Living World link). ◆ Interdependence	**Development** LIC/HIC; development indicators; GDP; global distribution; NICs; SDGs; globalisation.	**GIS, Patterns & Mapwork** GIS and spatial patterns; applied mapwork and geographical skills.
Year 8 Explain	**Population & Migration** Push & pull factors; population structure & distribution; urbanisation; migration; sustainable cities.	**Resources** Food (food miles, sustainability, imports); water (distribution, shortages); energy mix (fossil fuels vs renewables). ◆ Scale	**Tourism** Tourism & development; ecotourism and disaster tourism; economic & environmental impacts; Kenya case study. ◆ Diversity	**Natural Hazards** Tectonic hazards (earthquakes & volcanoes); weather hazards (UK floods & droughts; tropical cyclones). ◆ Interdependence	**River Landscapes** River processes & the water cycle; river landforms; erosion & deposition.	**Coasts** Coastal processes; erosion & deposition; coastal landforms; management.
Year 9 Evaluate	**Africa** Challenging stereotypes; physical features; biome distribution; the Sahel; Lagos; the Suez Canal; health (HIV). ◆ Diversity	**China** Physical features; the East–West divide; population & the One Child Policy; pollution. LIC → HIC	**Brazil** The Amazon rainforest; climate zones; endangered species; inequality; the Olympic legacy. ◆ Sustainability · NEE	**Climate Change** Evidence & causes; uneven global impacts; evaluating mitigation vs adaptation; climate futures. ◆ Scale	**Future Geography & Fieldwork** Data-driven geography; surveys; mapping data; fieldwork preparation. Map Skills	**Conflict** Resource & geopolitical conflict: water (Bolivia); the Aral Sea; blood diamonds; palm oil (E/SE Asia); HS2. Past vs Future Conflicts ◆ Interdependence
Year 10 2025–26	**Paper 2 · Urban Issues & Challenges** Global urbanisation; Rio de Janeiro (LIC/NEE); London (UK city); sustainable urban living (Freiburg).	**Paper 2 · Changing Economic World** The development gap: indicators, DTM, causes & consequences, reducing the gap.	**Paper 2 · Nigeria (NEE) & UK Economy** Nigeria (NEE) case study; the changing UK economy.	**Paper 2 · Resource Management** Resource management overview & food option (Paper 2 complete).	**Paper 1 · The Living World** Ecosystems, tropical rainforests and hot deserts.	**Paper 1 · Natural Hazards** Tectonic & weather hazards begin. Year 10 mock exams (mid-June).
Year 11 2026–27	**Paper 1 · Natural Hazards & Rivers** Fieldwork (River Pang) Climate change; UK physical landscapes: river landscapes.	**Paper 1 · Coastal Landscapes** Coastal processes, landforms and management.	**Paper 1 · Physical Landscapes & PPE** Physical landscapes consolidation; Year 11 mock exams (mid-Jan) & feedback.	**Paper 3 · Fieldwork** Fieldwork enquiry (London); field trip; data presentation & analysis.	**Paper 3 · Pre-release & Revision** Issue evaluation (pre-release); whole-course revision.	**GCSE Examinations** Paper 1 (~mid-May) · Paper 2 (~early June) · Paper 3 (~mid-June).

Progression threads

Three NC-rooted strands carried by the ◆ tags above and deepened across the spine. They continue into KS4 through the GCSE AO profile and are narrated in full in the curriculum intent statement.

Progression thread	Year 7 · Describe	Year 8 · Explain	Year 9 · Evaluate
◆ Scale *NC: Earth's features 'at different scales'*	**Locate & describe at and between scales:** local → regional → national → continental → global; nest a place within larger units.	**Explain how a process at one scale drive change at another:** local food choices → global food miles; rural–urban migration → national structure.	**Weigh competing scales in contested issues:** local vs global interests in climate, conflict and resources; judge whose scale matters.
◆ Diversity of place *NC: 'diverse places'; similarities, differences & links between places*	**Describe how places differ in physical & human character:** recognise places are diverse, not single stories.	**Explain the processes that produce variation between and within places:** why coastlines, structures and economies diverge.	**Evaluate representations of place:** challenge stereotypes; examine diversity within a place (Africa; China's E–W divide; Brazil's inequality).
◆ Interdependence *NC: physical & human processes are 'interdependent'; reliance on natural systems*	**Identify links between physical & human features and between places:** climate → biomes → people; rivers → settlement.	**Explain how physical & human processes interact and rely on one another:** resources, hazards and management as coupled systems.	**Evaluate the consequences when human reliance on natural systems breaks down:** trade-offs in climate, resources and conflict.