



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

Geography Key Stage 4 Curriculum

	Big Question	Focus	Topic
Year 10	What is the scale of global inequality and how can it be reduced?	Throughout this topic students develop their understanding of the scale of global inequality through investigating ways in which development can be measured, differences in demographic indicators between countries at contrasting levels of development, theories of development and an evaluation of top down and bottom up approaches to development.	Topic 2 Development Dynamics
	How is India, an emerging country, managing to develop?	An in depth study of India, an emerging country, to investigate how it is developing and the consequences of its development for people, the environment and its relationship with the wider world.	Topic 2 Development Dynamics
	Why are places and people changing in the UK?	This topic provides students with the opportunity to investigate the changing and varied human landscape of the UK, including the socio-economic and political processes that influence it.	Topic 5 The UK's Evolving Human Landscape
	How is London, a major city in the UK, changing?	This topic investigates the causes, and challenges and opportunities brought about by change in London, how ways of life in London can be improved by different strategies and how London is interdependent with rural areas which have led to changes in these areas. Within this topic students develop their fieldwork skills and techniques to investigate how and why quality of life varies with urban areas – East Finchley ward, London Borough of Barnet.	Topic 5 The UK's Evolving Human Landscape
	Why does the physical landscape of the UK vary from place to place?	This topic provides an overview of the varied physical landscapes in the UK resulting from geology, geomorphic processes and human activity over time.	Topic 4 The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape
	What processes have shaped the variety of coastal landscapes in the UK and why does conflict exist with regard to managing them and their communities?	This topic draws across the physical and human processes and the people-environment interactions to consider key contemporary issues, such as climate change, increased frequency of storms and rising sea levels, for UK coastal landscapes; an evaluation of the different approaches to managing these coastal landscapes.	Topic 4 The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape
	What processes have shaped the variety of river landscapes in the UK and why does conflict exist with regard to	This topic draws across the physical and human processes and the people-environment interactions to consider key contemporary issues, such as climate change, increased frequency of storms and land-use change, for UK river environments; an evaluation of the different approaches to managing these river landscapes.	Topic 4 The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape

	managing them and their communities?	Within this topic students develop their fieldwork skills and techniques to investigate how and why drainage basin and channel characteristics influence flood risk for people and property along Loughton Brook.	Topic 6 Geographical Investigations
	What are the causes and challenges of rapid urban change?	Throughout this topic, students investigate the causes and challenges of rapid urbanisation across the world and how cities change over time and how this is reflected in changing land use.	Topic 3 Challenges of an Urbanising World
	Why does quality of life vary so much within Mumbai, a megacity in the emerging world?	A depth study of Mumbai, a megacity in India, to investigate how rapid population growth creates opportunities and challenges for the people living there, and an evaluation of how quality of life for Mumbai's residents can be improved by different strategies for achieving sustainability.	Topic 3 Challenges of an Urbanising World

	Topic/Big Question	Focus	Topic
Year 11	How and why does quality of life vary in urban areas?	This topic allows students to develop their fieldwork skills and techniques to investigate how and why quality of life varies in the urban setting of East Finchley. Students collect, present, analyse and evaluate a range of quantitative and qualitative data as well as the use of secondary data sources to answer enquiry questions based on variations in quality of life.	Topic 6 Geographical Investigations
	Why is the biosphere so important to human wellbeing and how do humans use and modify it to obtain resources?	This topic explores the global distribution and characteristics of large scale ecosystems, why the biosphere is important to human well-being and how humans use and modify it in order to obtain resources.	Topic 7 People and the Biosphere
	What are the threats to forest biomes and how can they be reduced?	Students undertake a detailed study of tropical rainforests and the taiga, looking at processes and interactions and issues related to their biodiversity and to their sustainable use and management.	Topic 8 Forests Under Threat
	How can the growing demand for energy be met without serious environmental consequences?	A study of the renewable and non-renewable energy supply and demand, access and energy security issues, its sustainable use and management.	Topic 9 Consuming Energy Resources
	How does the world's climate system function, why does it change and how can this be hazardous for people?	This topic explores the global circulation of the atmosphere and changing climate; students investigate the natural causes of climate change, evidence for past changes in climate and the causes and consequences of contemporary climate change.	Topic 1 Hazardous Earth
	How are extreme weather events increasingly hazardous for people?	A depth study of an extreme weather hazard – tropical cyclones; this topic investigates the causes of tropical cyclones, the ways in which they present major natural hazards to people and places and how the impacts of them are linked to a country's ability to prepare and respond to them.	Topic 1 Hazardous Earth
	Why do the causes and impacts of tectonic activity and management of tectonic hazards vary with location?	A depth study of tectonic hazards at contrasting locations; this topic explores the earth's layered structure, the different plate boundaries each with their characteristic volcanic and earthquake hazards and how tectonic hazards affect people, and are managed, differently at contrasting locations.	Topic 1 Hazardous Earth