Year 9 Geography

**Intent**:

To deliver a broad curriculum which enhances student’s understanding of the world around them. It will engage, challenge and inspire students through the study of a range of physical and human topics delivered through country based themes. Student’s knowledge of topics, mastery of geographical skills and ability to write geographically will build throughout the programme of study. The use of interleaving, spaced assessment and knowledge organisers will support students in remembering more. Staff will work closely with their students to support and model extended writing. Through open questioning and positive re-enforcement staff will work to develop confident, resilient learners.

|  | **Topic** | **Key concept – what do I want the students to learn from this unit?** | **What knowledge will they acquire?** |
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| **YEAR 9 OVERVIEW** | | | |
| **Y9 - half term 1** | Forests under threat | Why are tropical rainforests so important, how are they being damaged and what is being done to protect them? | 8.1a. How biotic and abiotic characteristics are interdependent, how plants  and animals are  adapted to the climate.  8.1b. Why tropical rainforests have a very high rate of nutrient  cycling which, in turn, supports high levels of biodiversity and  complex food webs.  8.3a. Causes of deforestation  and how demand for biofuels, mineral resources and electricity (HEP) contribute to deforestation.  8.3b. Why climate change is an indirect threat to the health of  tropical rainforests (ecosystem stress, drought).  8.5a. Advantages and disadvantages of global actions (CITES, REDD)  designed to protect tropical rainforest species and areas and  why deforestation rates are rising in some areas but falling in  others.  8.5b. The challenge of achieving sustainable forest management and  why alternative livelihoods (ecotourism, sustainable farming)  might better protect the remaining tropical rainforest. |
| **Y9 – half term 2** | Forests under threat | Why are taiga forests so important, how are they being damaged and what is being done to protect them? | 8.2a. How biotic and abiotic characteristics are interdependent  how taiga  plants and animals  (migratory) are adapted to the climate.  8.2b. Why the taiga has lower productivity, with less active nutrient  cycling and much lower levels of biodiversity. (1)  8.4a. Direct threats from logging for softwood, pulp and paper  production and indirect threats resulting from the exploitation  of minerals, fossil fuels and HEP potential.  8.4b. How acid precipitation, forest fires, pests and diseases and  forest fires contribute to a loss of biodiversity. (2)  8.6a. Challenges of creating and maintaining protected wilderness  areas, national parks and sustainable forestry in the taiga.  8.6b. Reasons for conflicting views on protecting or exploiting forest  and natural resources in the taiga. |