**UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**Introductory pack for PGCE Geography**

This pack of information will help you to prepare thoroughly for the beginning of the PGCE course. You need to share your progress with these tasks, with your tutor during your first tutorial in September.

**There are three compulsory tasks to complete**.

**Compulsory Task 1: Subject Knowledge Audit**

A subject audit has been included in your pack. This includes the subject knowledge needed for the National Curriculum as well as in many GCSE and A level specifications for geography. The subject audit will help you to chart the progress of your subject knowledge throughout the course. We would like you to complete the Pre-PGCE column of the audit identifying how confident you feel about each topic area. The options range from C for confident knowledge and N for no knowledge in this area. There is also a space for you to comment on where your knowledge comes from e.g. a degree module, from studying AS Environmental Studies or observing a Key Stage 3 Geography lesson during some voluntary work experience.

**Compulsory Task 2: Subject Knowledge Development**

Your subject knowledge audit will help you to identify areas of subject knowledge that you need to work on before starting the course. Many of you have already begun researching areas of your subject knowledge or this has been set as a condition of your acceptance on to the course. Becoming an effective teacher however is not just about having excellent subject knowledge. As you carry out your research, it would be useful for you to collect relevant resources and consider how you could use both knowledge and resources to teach effective lessons and activities.

**What to do:**

* After completing your subject audit, identify at least two areas of the curriculum to work on
* Research these areas but keep in mind that you will be teaching 11 to 18-year-old students and not undergraduates.
* Make notes on the key points you have read, include any case studies and relevant diagrams. Alternatively, you can create your own website using weebly.com (or any other online tool) to evidence your progression in this area. This is a free service (although more complex tools will be offered to you at a cost). An example of the kinds of pages you could create can be accessed via <http://subjectaudit2.weebly.com> which includes examples from History, Geography and Social Science. **You are advised to not include reference to the University of Leicester or your own personal details if you choose to create a website.**
* Add any ideas you may have about how to actually teach this area of knowledge.

***Please keep a detailed record of the work you have done in this area. This is evidence towards Teacher Standard 3: Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge.***

|  |
| --- |
| PLEASE NOTE: **The development of relevant subject knowledge is the responsibility of the student as limited time can be spent on this during the PGCE course itself.** |

**Compulsory Task 3: Reading**

There are a range of relevant texts that will support your development as a geography teacher. To prepare for the course please read the following documents and make notes on your thoughts about the questions which follow. We will discuss these during the first weeks of the course.

1. National curriculum in England: geography programmes of study for Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2). Available online at:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239044/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_Geography.pdf>

* What are your first thoughts about the geography curriculum for primary schools? Is there anything that strikes you as unusual or surprising about what is expected to be covered?
* How might this document be useful to you as a secondary geography teacher?

1. National curriculum in England: geography programmes of study for Key Stage 3 (KS3). Available online at:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239087/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_Geography.pdf>

* What are your first thoughts about the geography curriculum for secondary schools? What concerns might you have about schools only following the NC in Year 7 and 8? What concerns might you have that the NC is not compulsory for Academy schools?
* What areas of subject content do you think are important, yet missing from the KS3 NC?

1. The Education Endowment Foundation have written a number of reports on topics such as Behaviour, Secondary literacy and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Select one report and write a summary ready to share with your peers in September.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/evidence-reviews/>

* Select one report and summarise what you have learned, ready to share with your peers in September.

1. The Royal Geographical Society have a range of Resources for schools, available online at: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/>

* Read and review three resources aimed at different key stages (i.e. KS3, GCSE and A level)
* Suggest at least one way you could adapt each of these resources for use in the classroom.
* What further ideas do these resources give you? i.e. One resource is based on Tim Marshall’s book Prisoners of Geography – I would then think about what other books I could use to design a scheme of work for secondary geography.

It is strongly advised that you join the Geographical Association to be able to access the wide range of resources and journal articles that will be of benefit to you throughout the course. There is usually a reduction in subscription charge for student teachers.

Find out more at <http://www.geography.org.uk>

Key texts which are worth reading include the following:

Biddulph et al. (2015) *Learning to Teach Geography in the Secondary School*. 3rd Edn. Oxon: Routledge.

Jones, M (ed.) (2017) The Handbook of Secondary Geography. Sheffield: Geographical Association.

Jones, M and Lambert, D. (eds.) (2018) *Debates in Geography Education*. 2nd Edn. London: Routledge.

Roberts, M (2013) *Geography Through Enquiry*, Sheffield: Geographical Association.

The first text in the list is well worth purchasing.

|  |
| --- |
| **Please be ready to discuss with your tutor and your peers in the first week of the course:**   * The work you have done towards your PIAP conditions/advice * Your subject audit and subject knowledge development * Your initial ideas about the role and importance of, as well as the challenges faced in geography education in schools today |