

About the Geographical Association

The Geographical Association (GA) is a subject association with the core charitable objective of **furthering the study, learning and teaching of geography**. The GA has around 6000 memberships in the UK and abroad, including teachers in primary and secondary schools and further education, academic geographers, universities and teacher educators and trainers. The GA aims to support teacher CPD through geography curriculum development.

The Geographical Association is a registered charity (number 1135148) and its core activities are financed by membership subscriptions.

The GA was formed by five geographers in 1893 and remains an independent unincorporated association. The first members got together to use and exchange 'lantern slides', a leading technology of the day. Today, the GA's purpose is the same – sharing ideas and learning from each other, using the best available technology.

A dedicated and enterprising body of professional staff, based at our Sheffield headquarters, runs the Geographical Association under the leadership of its elected officers and appointed Chief Executive. The GA is overseen by two main committees – the Governing Body and the Education Committee - giving strong representation to the members.

GA Activities

The GA is involved in a wide range of activities to support geography teachers.

A different view – the GA's manifesto for school geography – was launched at our 2009 Annual Conference. It promotes a lively, dynamic geography for the twenty-first century. The supporting webpages contain activities and photographs for teachers to use in the classroom. See www.geography.org.uk/adifferentview

Geography subject leadership: The GA develops geography *subject leadership* at all levels, from new teachers in their initial training to geography subject co-ordinators in primary schools and heads of department in secondary schools.

Key geography resources: The GA publishes a wide range of resources to support teachers in the classroom from Early Years to Post-16. See www.geographyshop.org.uk for individual titles. The GA websites contain a wealth of information and resources for geography teachers.

CPD events: The GA runs quality CPD events around the UK for primary and secondary teachers, led by subject specialists. The three-day GA Annual Conference and Exhibition is the largest CPD event of its kind and attracts more than 700 delegates.

Worldwise: *Worldwise* provides the opportunity for students to take part in a range of fun and engaging free-of-charge activities aimed at promoting geography in schools.

Quality Marks: The Primary and Secondary Geography Quality Marks are outstanding professional development tools based on evaluating practice, raising standards and celebrating high quality school geography.

Funded projects: The GA and RGS-IBG have formed an equal partnership to lead the government-funded Action Plan for Geography (2008-2011). The GA is also engaged in a range of activities providing resources for geography teachers with funding from other organisations such as LSC, TDA, ESRI and Becta.