Local and Distant Place Studies
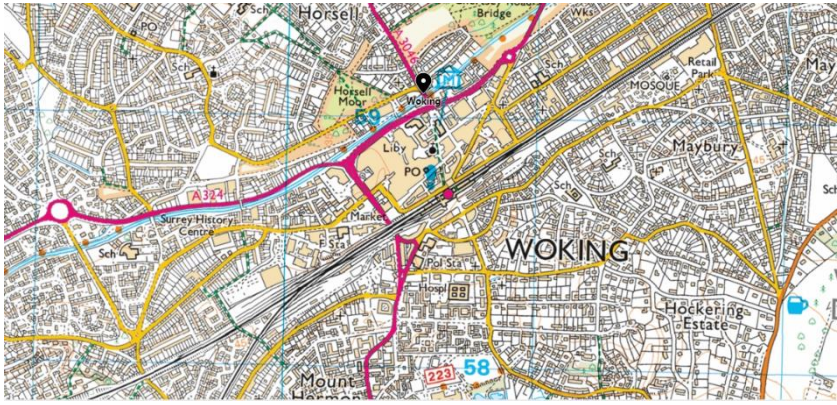
WOKING

Opening Questions

What do you already know about Woking? Create a bullet point list on what you already know about Woking. Draw a sketch map of the area picking out key aspects. Remember to annotate certain features and consider why you've represented it in that kind of way. What factors will have impacted how you've represented Woking?	• _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ Sketch Map
Where is it on the rural/urban spectrum? What has informed your view on the position of Woking on the rural/urban spectrum? What sources do you use to make a judgement on this?	
What is the boundary of your chosen place? Ward? Parish boundary?	
Is there an obvious place identity? How do local descriptions, your own thoughts, school/colleges and businesses help shape the identity of Woking?	
What economic activity and inequalities are there? Using sources such as the census, neighbourhood statistics, NOMIS and Office of National Statistics, is there any economic activity/inequality?	
What are its functions? Is there any evidence to suggest that these functions have changed over time? Industrial? Retail? Administrative? Commercial?	

Enquiry Question 1: How and why do places vary?
Regional Influences

How well is Woking connected in terms of transport? Using OS Maps and public transport timetables can you make a judgement on how well Woking is connected in terms of its public transport?	
Are there any major cities nearby and what is the impact on these places?	
What are the policies on growth and development? Use local authority websites to find out if the area has plans for growth.	

National Influences

What are the political inclinations of the national government? How might local election results impact on the area? How might general election results and referendum results impact on the area?	
How strong is the sense of community? Using social media and your own personal experience, can you judge the level of social community?	
What are the pressures for change? Local newspapers and council websites may suggest the pressures for change.	

Enquiry Question 1: How and why do places vary?

Global Influences

Are there any brands present – retail outlets, branch, factories and offices? Land use surveys General observations	
Is there any involvement in global tourism? Tourist information	
How well connected to the internet is Woking? Can you test out accessing fibre optic in Woking? Is there any secondary data which tells you about Broadband speeds in Woking?	

International Influences

Are your places directly affected by specific government/EU policies or designations?	
Is your place 'twinned' with a location abroad? Why was that place chosen?	
How do your places compare with the national average of wealth and deprivation? *Index of Multiple Deprivation*	
How accessible is Woking to locations around the world? Airports, Ports, International train travel (Eurostar)?	

IDENTITY

It is important that you consider how these influences affect the identity of that area. On a separate piece of paper take each of the factors below and explain how they have shaped the identity of Woking.

1. A change in function
2. Economic characteristics (e.g. sector, type of employment, unemployment)
3. Population characteristics (e.g. age, migration, ethnic composition, gentrification)
4. Socio-economic inequalities in pay, levels of education and health.

> **To finish…**
>
> Take two highlighters and highlight where ***social*** or ***economic*** change is taking place.