

GEOGRAPHY GCSE



What qualification does this course lead to?

GCSE Geography

What topics will I study?

There are three components to the GCSE.

- Global Geographical Issues (37.5% of the qualification): Learners study three topics – ‘Hazardous Earth’ (including climate change, weather hazards and tectonics), ‘Development dynamics’ (including a case study on an emerging economy) and ‘Challenges of an urbanising world’ (including an in depth case study of a megacity).
- UK Geographical Issues (37.5% of the qualification) Learners study three topics – ‘The UKs evolving physical landscape’ (which includes an in depth study of coastal and river processes) ‘The UKs evolving human landscape’ (which includes a case study of a major UK city) and ‘Geographical investigations’ (where students will complete two field study investigations).
- People and environment issues (25% of the qualification) Learners study four topics – ‘People and the biosphere’ (including ecosystems), ‘Forests under threat’ (including a detailed study of tropical rainforests), ‘Consuming energy resources’ (including a study of renewable, non-renewable and renewable energy). The examination for this unit will also require learners to make a geographical decision based on evidence provided to them in the exam.

What understanding and skills will I develop?

Students opting for a GCSE in Geography will understand current issues in the world around them and how they affect their own lives and the lives of others. Throughout the course students will develop research and presentation skills, learn how to extract information from maps, text and diagrams and develop their team work skills.

How will I learn/ how will I be taught?

Teaching methods vary from independent research, group work tasks, GIS, exam practice and peer marking. Support materials will also be provided on Moodle. It is a compulsory element of this course to spend two days out of school completing fieldwork and research. This is currently delivered through two separate day trips – one to Blackpool and one to the River Wyre. The voluntary contribution to the cost of the trip is approximately £11.

How will I be assessed?

The three units are assessed separately.

Global Geographical Issues: 37.5% of final grade. Assessed by a 1 hour 30 minute exam

UK Geographical issues: 37.5% of final grade. Assessed by a 1 hour 30 minute exam

People and environment issues: 25% of final grade. Assessed by a 1 hour 30 minute exam

What can this course lead on to?

A GCSE in Geography can lead onto A Level Geography or into employment.

Who do I need to contact for more information?

Contact Mrs C. McMurtrie, Mrs Y. Southern or Mr N. Beale for more information