

## Geography Department Guide to Marking and Feedback



### Key Stage 3 and 4 Geography

### A-Level Geography

#### a) Frequency of formal marking and grading used

Key Stage 3 Geography: there is one formally assessed piece of work per half-term. This work is assessed against the Mastery assessment criteria.

Key Stage 4 Geography: GCSE mock exams and End of Year exams as per whole school assessment calendar. Mid-unit and end of unit tests throughout the GCSE course, usually one or two per half-term. These are all marked using GCSE grading scales of 9 to 1.

#### a) Frequency of formal marking and grading used

A minimum of three key pieces of work are assessed across A-Level Geography per half-term. These are marked using A-Level grading scales of A\* to E.

#### b) Student feedback from assessed work

Students are provided with specific improvements targets linked to the assessment questions or tasks.

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#### c) Lesson guidance for completion of feedback

Students receive teacher guidance to assist with their completion of feedback tasks through, for example, written prompts, sentence starters and key words that allow them to access their target level work.

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Students receive teacher guidance to assist with their completion of feedback tasks through, for example, written prompts, using A-Level mark schemes, using model answers.

#### d) Student absence

If a student is absent for key learning they may be directed to the school VLE to use, for example, the department's Knowledge Organisers to help them catch up. Returning students may be directed to BBC Bitesize websites to help them with their knowledge and understanding of missed work:

KS3 Geography: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrw76sg>

GCSE Geography: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zy3ptyc>

#### d) Student absence

If a student is absent for key learning they may be directed to the school VLE to use, for example, the department's bank of A-Level resources. Students are expected to use their Directed Time of Study Flex lessons to copy up missed notes. On occasions teachers may photocopy missed work.

If a student is absent for an assessment they would usually be expected to use their Directed Time of Study Flex lessons to catch up.

Students are always welcome to use Geography classrooms at lunchtime to copy up work. On occasions teachers may photocopy missed work.

If a student is absent for an assessment, on their return they participate in the feedback and improvement lesson to allow the teacher to then assess their knowledge and understanding of the missed assessment.

**e) Teacher monitoring of work quality, presentation and check for understanding in between key assessments**

Teachers use a range of strategies to monitor the quality of students' work through techniques such as: 'book looks' (regular visual checking of books), peer and self-assessment in class under teacher guidance, in-class teacher checking of work during the course of lessons, formal book scrutiny by the Head of Department.

**f) Homework checking and assessment**

Key Stage 3 Geography: the calendared Geography home-learning assignment is assessed against Mastery criteria. Feedback is provided to students with linked improvement tasks.

Key Stage 4 Geography: GCSE homework may be checked and assessed through techniques such as memory recall tasks to check on subject knowledge, in-class questioning to assess geographical understanding, peer and self-assessment in class using GCSE mark schemes, key word vocabulary tests.

**e) Teacher monitoring of work quality, presentation and check for understanding in between key assessments**

Teachers use a range of strategies to monitor the quality of students' work through techniques such as: individual learning conversations between teacher and student, 'book looks' (regular visual checking of books), peer and self-assessment in class under teacher guidance, in-class teacher checking of work during the course of lessons, formal book scrutiny by the Head of Department.

**f) Homework checking and assessment**

A-Level Geography homework may be checked and assessed through techniques such as memory recall tasks to check on subject knowledge, in-class questioning to assess geographical understanding, peer and self-assessment in class using A-Level mark schemes.