

GEOGRAPHY

Qualification: GCSE
Available to: All students
Awarding Body: AQA



OVERVIEW

Skills Required:

Students who are interested in studying Geography at GCSE should take a particular interest in the world around them, its features, people, and how it is changing. Geographers need to be able to make decisions and judgements about a range of issues. You will be introduced to a variety of sources such as maps, graphs and tables to explore problems and ideas. You will be required to participate in fieldwork as part of the course.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES

Studying Geography at GCSE allows you to develop a knowledge and understanding of current events across the world, and in your local area. You will investigate a range of issues and develop a wide variety of skills including extended writing, making judgements and graphical skills. These skills are beneficial for a range of post 16 opportunities including studying A-Levels and in a variety of careers. Careers in Geography can range from surveying and architecture to business and the travel industry, however the skills you develop can lead you to many more opportunities across the world.

ASSESSMENT

You will sit 3 examination papers in the summer of your second year;

Paper 1:

Physical Geography (90 minutes, 35% of the GCSE)

Paper 2:

Human Geography (90 minutes, 35% of the GCSE)

Paper 3:

Geographical issues and fieldwork (60 minutes, 30% of the GCSE)

DETAIL

Course Overview:

Geography at GCSE will focus on both our physical and human environments and our changing world. During the course you will study:

Paper 1: Physical Geography;

Natural Hazards - including earthquakes, volcanoes, tropical storms, extreme weather in the UK and climate change. Landscapes in the UK - including coastal and river landscapes. The Living World - including ecosystems such as tropical rainforests and hot deserts.

Paper 2: Human Geography;

Urban Issues and Challenges - including urban growth in LICs and HICs, urban growth in a UK city and sustainability. The Changing Economic World - including the development gap, global economic development and the economy of the UK. The Challenges of Resource Management - including managing supplies of energy, food and water. To enhance your understanding of these issues you will study a range of case studies and examples including Rio de Janeiro, The Amazon Rainforest and the Nepal Earthquake.

Paper 3: Geographical Applications

Issue Evaluation - You will be provided with a resource booklet prior to your examination which will focus on a specific geographical issue. Using maps, graphs, diagrams, photographs and statistics you will evaluate this issue and make judgements about it. Previous issues have included deforestation and resource management in the UK
Fieldwork - You will undertake two geographical enquiries investigating one human and one physical issues. You will be required to gather primary data, analyse this and then make judgements surrounding your hypothesis.