

What are the aims and intentions of this curriculum?

The aim of our Key Stage 4 curriculum is to engage students' interest in the natural environment and how people interact with it. We want to provide a balanced framework of physical and human geography, allowing students to investigate the battles between the man-made and natural worlds.

Term	Topics	Knowledge covered	Skills developed	Assessment
Autumn 1	The Challenge of Natural Hazards	Types of natural hazards. Factors affecting hazard risk. Plate tectonics theory. Distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes. Physical processes taking place at different types of plate margin. Primary and secondary effects of a tectonic hazard. Immediate and long-term responses to a tectonic hazard. Case studies of a High Income Country and a Low Income Country.	Drawing cross sections. Categorising impacts and responses. Comparing contrasting areas of wealth. Discussion Evaluation	Exam questions
Autumn 2	The Challenge of Natural Hazards	Why people live in areas at risk from a tectonic hazard. Reducing the risks from a tectonic hazard. Weather hazards: General atmospheric circulation model. Global distribution of tropical storms, causes and the impact of climate change. Tropical storm case study.	Discussion Evaluation Categorising impacts and responses. Choropleth mapping	40 mark test
Spring 1	The Challenge of Natural Hazards	UK weather hazards. UK weather hazard case study. Impacts of global warming. Global causes and consequences of climate change.	Discussion Evaluation Categorising impacts and responses. OS map skills	40 mark test
Spring 2	The Living World	Small scale ecosystems, large scale biomes. Nutrient cycles. Tropical rainforest characteristics. Rainforest case study analysing causes and impacts of deforestation. Managing tropical rainforests.	Discussion Evaluation	Exam questions
Summer 1	The Living World	Characteristics of hot deserts. Desert case study analysing opportunities and challenges. Desertification and strategies to combat desertification.	Discussion Evaluation	40 mark test
Summer 2	Physical Landscapes UK	Overview of upland and lowland areas in the UK. Coasts: Processes- weathering, erosion, transportation, deposition. Landforms of erosion and deposition. UK coastline study. Managing the coastline. Conflict at the coast.	OS map skills Process sequencing. Field sketching. Cost benefit analysis. Arguing alternative viewpoints.	Exam questions