

GEOGRAPHY

GCSE



Examination Board: AQA
Subject Leader(s): Ms C Holland



Course Structure

Unit	Topics/Unit Title	Assessment	Weighting(%)
1	Living with the Physical Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">The challenge of natural hazardsThe living worldPhysical Landscapes of the UKGeographical skills are assessed throughout the paper.	1hr 30mins Exam (Paper 1)	35%
2	Challenges in Human Environments <ul style="list-style-type: none">Urban issues and challengesThe changing economic worldThe challenge of resource managementGeographical skills are assessed throughout the paper.	1hr 30mins exam (Paper 2)	35%
3	Geographical Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none">Issue Evaluation; this is based on a pre-release resource booklet available in March and will involve Geographical problem solving based on topics we have studied throughout the course.Fieldwork; 2 pieces will be undertaken, one focusing on physical Geography, the other on human Geography. Students will answer questions on this field work and unseen field work.Geographical skills are assessed throughout the paper.	1hr 15mins exam. (Paper 3)	30%

What does the course involve?

Studying Geography will enable you to explore the global issues that occur throughout the world on an almost daily basis. From looking at tectonic hazards to issues countries face around development, you will gain an understanding of what is happening in our world today. 'Many of the world's current problems come down to geography, and we need the geographies of the future to help us understand them.' Michael Palin.

You will also be able to apply what you are learning within the field when you carry out your fieldwork. Looking at both human and physical Geography aspects will allow you to develop a broad range of Geographical skills.

This course involves you looking at real-life, and very much applicable, issues to what is happening around you in your world. Studying this Geography course will give you a well rounded view and enable you to engage in current issues that affect your everyday life. Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters, speed of disease are just a few of the current great challenges facing the next generation of geographers and of all topics that we will study and understand through this course.

Skills you will develop

Geography students can demonstrate the ability to provide developed arguments that analyse and evaluate. Both written & verbal through a debate they can interpret and judge evidence and can both develop and interpret a variety of numeric, graphical and cartographic data making practical use of your numeracy skills. You will develop and enhance your literacy skills through report writing and written work. Geographical students can apply their understanding in the field and develop fieldwork skills through the fieldwork they undertake. You will use modern technology such as CIS – computer mapping. Geography students understand people and the impacts they are having on the world today; but most importantly they understand the changing world we are living in today

Further Study/Employment Prospects

Statistics show that Geography graduates are among the most employable. The transferable skills which Geography fosters are an asset in the complex world of employment today. In part this is because the subject combines a knowledge of science and an understanding of the arts. Geography is about the future and encourages flexible thinking.

Geography is about the interactions between people and planet and as such this fascinating subject is valid for a multitude of careers paths. Geographers are renowned for the wide range of skills they bring to any profession: Cartographer, Risk Assessor, Hydrologist, Planner, Coastal Manager, Social worker, Geologist, Market researcher, Civil engineer, Aid worker, Weather presenter, Diplomat, Disaster manager, flood prevention officer, Accountancy, Law, Teaching and more!

“It may be, however, that the bigger reason is that Geography is a subject for our times. It is inherently multidisciplinary in a world that increasingly values people who have the skills needed to work across the physical and social sciences. Geographers get to learn data analysis, they learn geographic information systems. They can turn maps from a two-dimensional representation of a country’s physical contours into a tool that illustrates social attributes or attitudes: not just where people live, but how, what they think and how they vote. They learn about the physics of climate change, or the interaction of weather events and flood risk, or the way people’s behaviour is influenced by the space around them.” The Guardian, 2015

‘Geography helps you make sense of the world around you, makes you realise how the world works. It opens your eyes to things around you and shows you how the world can be deadly as well as beautiful.’ **Student**