

Geography GCSE

Current Examining Board: AQA

The current specification followed in Geography is the AQA Specification A, Higher Tier (Full Course).

This challenging and stimulating course offers opportunities for the students to:

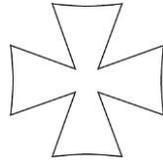
- develop a sense of place and an appreciation of the environment
- develop an understanding of global citizenship
- appreciate that the world around them is dynamic and that their actions and decisions contribute to this change
- understand the significance of people's attitudes and values in decision making
- acquire and apply a variety of geographical skills and techniques
- develop skills of independent learning and develop a depth of knowledge and understanding of places and geographical concepts that do and will affect their lives

The course is taught over three years and provides a balanced coverage of physical, human and environmental aspects. The extra year allows for integrated enrichment activities and coverage of a wider curriculum.

There will be day trips/fieldwork and the ability to respond to relevant current affairs stories and to develop presentation skills and independent learning assignments.

The following topics will be covered:

- Coastal Landscapes
- Managing Resources: Water
- Hot Deserts
- Managing Resources: Food
- Natural Hazards
- Managing Resources: Energy
- The Changing Economic World
- Cold Environments
- Urban Issues and Challenges
- Ecosystems and Tropical Rainforests
- UK Physical Landscapes and Rivers
- Physical and Human Fieldwork



A four day Geography tour to Iceland (optional) has been introduced at GCSE – aimed at Year 10 Geographers to support their Physical Geography topics. This trip offers the rare opportunity to visit a unique and awesome landscape of glaciers and ice caps that calve icebergs into the sea and of active volcanic scenery – lava flows, volcanic cones, geysers and geothermal pools. It is the only place on Earth where we can get into a rifting plate margin.

GCSE Syllabus Specification

The areas that will be tested have been confirmed as:

Locational knowledge

Contextual knowledge of the world's continents, countries, regions and their physical, environmental and human features.

Maps, Fieldwork and Geographical Skills

The use of a range of maps, atlases, Ordnance Survey maps, satellite imagery and other graphic and digital material including the use of Geographic Information Systems. Different approaches to fieldwork undertaken in at least two contrasting environments.

Place: processes and relationships

Geography of the UK.

Physical Geography: processes and change

Geomorphic processes and landscape, changing weather and climate.

People and environment: processes and interactions

Global ecosystems and biodiversity, Resources and their management.

Human Geography: processes and change

Cities and urban society, Global economic and development issues.