

Geography

AQA GCSE

Why study Geography?

The aim of the GCSE course is for the student to acquire knowledge and understanding of a variety of places, environments and geographical patterns at a range of scales from local to global, and to gain an appreciation of the physical and human processes which affect their development. Throughout the course the students will develop a wide range of skills and techniques, including those of Ordnance Survey map work, fieldwork investigative skills and Information Technology. The study of contemporary geography will equip each student with a clear understanding of the complex and diverse world in which we live.



What will I learn?

The course is diverse and varied, covering almost every aspect of the environment in which we live. Physical geography units include earthquakes and volcanoes, rivers and coasts.

Human geography units include population and development, globalisation and tourism and the quality of life.

The course also stresses the role of environmental management with the emphasis on decision making at a practical level using detailed case studies. Many of these have a local theme looking at both river and coastal flooding, land use management in both rural and urban environments, retail change and traffic management schemes. Global issues are not forgotten in this environmental debate.

Students will need to undertake two geographical enquiries learning a wide range of fieldwork techniques, each of which will include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1

Living with the physical environment

Written examination – 1 hour 30 minutes – 88 marks (including 3 marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology (SPaG)) – 35% of GCSE

Paper 2

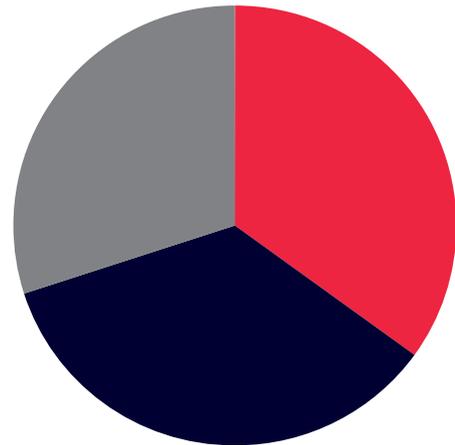
Challenges in the human environment

Written examination – 1 hour 30 minutes – 88 marks (including 3 marks for SPaG) – 35% of GCSE

Paper 3

Geographical applications

Written examination – 1 hour 15 minutes – 76 marks (including 6 marks for SPaG) – 30% of GCSE



35% - Written Paper 1
35% - Written Paper 2
30% - Written Paper 3

What can I do after I've completed the course?

As well as being the ideal preparation for the A Level and IB Geography courses, the GCSE Geography course develops the transferable skills and key skills that employers are looking for and can lead to a wide variety of employment opportunities. The close link between Geography and the world around us makes for a long and varied list of related careers.