



GEOGRAPHY GCSE

Ofsted said: "Most parents are very pleased with the education that their children are receiving and comment on the excellent principal and high-quality senior leadership team."

June 2016

GEOGRAPHY GCSE SPECIFICATION AT A GLANCE

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Candidates will pursue a course leading to the award of a GCSE 9-1 qualification at the end of Year 11. The GCSE requires students to complete three units of work that are examined at the end of Year 11 in three written exams.

UNITS:

Unit 1: Living with the physical environment

Written examination - 1hr 30 min- 35%

- The challenge of natural hazards
- The living world
- Physical landscapes of the UK

Unit 2: Challenges in the human environment

Written examination - 1hr 30min- 35%

- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management

Unit 3: Geographical applications

Written examination - 1hr 15min- Pre-release resource booklet- 30%

- Issue evaluation
- Compulsory Fieldwork in physical and human environments

Geographical skills are taught throughout each unit

SUPPORTING TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES:

Fieldwork- Day visits to collect data

1. Physical Environment - Investigating coastal processes
2. Human Environment - Investigating geographical processes in a human environment

SHOULD MY CHILD STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is part of our everyday life from extreme weather to endangered ecosystems and world cities. Knowing, understanding and applying a range of geographical skills allows our students to make the change they would like to see in the world. Michael Palin has stated that geography students hold the key to the world's problems and it is a subject that broadens the mind (Palin, 2018, 2011).

What will my child gain from geography?

Geography is a unique subject because it allows for the study of physical and human environments. It augments our students understanding of our past and present impacts on our planet and forecast the future impacts that we may have. It can also help our students to develop the following skills:

- Read and use maps, aerial photos and diagrams in a range of formats to strengthen navigation skills
- Collect, present, analyse and evaluate a range of data.
- Develop critical thinking and decision making skills
- Gain a knowledge and understanding of the world and global issues such as sustainability and climate change
- Appreciation of different cultures both at home and abroad

Where will geography take my child?

Geography compliments all subjects and contributes to employability through the further development of literacy, numeracy, ICT, self-motivation and team work skills. It is good foundation for pursuing A levels and some jobs for which GCSE geography could be a pathway include:

- Surveying
- Town Planner
- Oceanographer
- Architect
- Volcanologist
- GIS (Geographical Information Systems)
- Marine Biologist

Further reading/ suggested revision materials:

Aqa.org.uk/geographygcse
AQA GCSE (9-1) Geography – Hodder
GCSE Geography for AQA Student Book- Cambridge Press
Geography AQA Student Book- Oxford University Press
GCSE Geography AQA Revision Guide
Seneca learning - <https://www.senecalearning.com/>

For further information, please contact:

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