

Geography GCSE

Overview

Geography is an exciting, dynamic, topical, and highly relevant subject that deals with many of the issues facing people and places across the planet. It helps us to understand how places are interconnected and how the natural environment can affect humans as well as how humans can affect the natural environment.

It is a subject that supports both the Sciences and the Humanities with the focus on the physical and human environments. It helps to develop the ability to think:

- **Creatively**, by posing questions relating to different elements of geographical processes and concepts
- **Scientifically**, by collecting and recording appropriate evidence from a range of sources, including fieldwork
- **Independently** by applying geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to real world contexts

Geography can help us to understand many of the changes taking place in the world today. Through studying the range of causes of issues such as global climate change and how this may impact on humans, Geography helps us to understand what impacts we, as individuals, can have and what we can do about this to live in a more sustainable way. It also helps us to develop an understanding of issues from the local to global scale, such as why local areas are regenerated to how natural hazards can impact on some communities more than others.

Geography allows students to develop a wide range of transferable skills that are important in everyday life and in the world of work such as literacy; numeracy; graphicacy; ICT; problem solving; thinking skills; enquiry; analysis and social and environmental awareness, and all these skills make Geographers highly employable.

Geography is a key qualification that enables students to access a range of careers such as those in retail, travel, planning, surveying, estate agency, conservation, project management, civil engineering, financial services, the forces and many more.

Topics

A wide range of physical and human topics are covered throughout the course. The geography of the UK is covered in studying rivers, coastal landscapes, urban areas, rural areas and their related issues and management strategies. Tectonic and climatic hazards are studied alongside ecosystems such as coral reefs. Global issues are addressed in studying global cities, development patterns, pressure on resources such as water supplies, effects of climate change and the management of many of these issues.

Fieldwork is a compulsory element of the course where data is collected, presented, analysed and evaluated in preparation for examination questions.

Course Structure

The GCSE course will follow the Eduqas Specification and will have 3 formal assessments (examinations) at the end of year 11.

Component 1: Changing Physical and Human Landscapes (35% of qualification)

- Three structured, data response questions and some extended written responses

Component 2: Environmental and Development Issues (35% of qualification)

- Three structured, data response questions and some extended written responses

Component 3: Applied Fieldwork Enquiry (30% of qualification)

- Structured data response questions based on fieldwork, geographical skills and decision making.

Additional Information & Who to Contact

- For more information please follow the link to the course specification on the exam board website https://www.eduqas.co.uk/ed/qualifications/geography-gcse-a/#tab_overview
- If you require any further information or have any questions, then please contact Miss Buxton via email – carolyn.buxton@consilium-at.com

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