

SUBJECT: Geography (GCSE)

YEAR: 10 & 11

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mr McCarthy

GROUPING POLICY: Mixed ability in option blocks although some setting may be used if numbers/timetabling allow.

EXAM BOARD: AQA

ASSESSMENT: 100% External examination

Link to Specification: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035>

COURSE CONTENT:

What will my child learn?

Challenges in The Human Environment:

- Urban Issues and Challenges (Rio de Janeiro & Bristol case studies)
- Changing Economic World (Nigeria and UK case studies)
- Resource Management (Food or Water or Energy)

Living with the Physical Environment:

- Challenge of Natural Hazards;
- Tectonic Hazards (earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes) and Weather and Climate;
- Physical Landscapes; Two from Coasts/Rivers/Glaciers
- Living World; Ecosystems and Tropical Rainforests with either Hot Deserts/Cold environments

Geographical Applications:

- Fieldwork and Research – two distinct fieldwork opportunities will be examined based on the students' personal experiences as well as their ability to manipulate and analyse secondary data - currently trips go to Minehead and Bristol.
- Issue Evaluation – a significant and contemporary issue from one of the taught topic areas will be investigated with the aid of a collection of resources which will be issued prior to the examination

Geographical Skills:

- Photographic interpretation, Graphical Numeracy, Mapping including use of Ordnance survey and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

What will homework look like?

Various tasks set totalling approximately two hours per fortnight. These will include exam style questions, consolidation of work from class, the review of marked work and will be set through Satchel One.

ASSESSMENT

How will my child's work be assessed?

Students' classwork and homework will be systematically assessed throughout the course. This will include regular tests over two years (internally assessed). These will be used to monitor and support progress and identify areas for students to develop.

- There are 3 examination papers which students will sit at the end of Year 11. The type of questions within each of these papers includes: multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response and extended prose.

Paper 1 will assess the units on the challenge of natural hazards, The living world, Physical landscapes in the UK and Geographical skills (35%), 1hr 30mins

Paper 2 will assess the units on Urban issues and challenges, The changing economic world, The challenge of resource management and Geographical skills (35%), 1hr 30mins.

Paper 3 will assess the units on Issue evaluation, Fieldwork and Geographical skills (30%), 1hr 15mins.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

- Discussion of topics being covered
- Trips to relevant localities with links made to learning
- Access to ICT for independent research
- Check that homework is being completed
- Encourage them to watch the news and relevant documentaries e.g. David Attenborough/Simon Reeve

How can I support my child with exams?

- Revision techniques and timetabling
- Encourage attendance at revision sessions after school
- Encourage use of the electronic resources offered such as those on the Google Classroom