

Year 11 into 12 Transition Day - Geography

Welcome to Geography! Geography is an amazing subject that informs us about our planet and that can open lots of doors to you. The Geography department at St Mary's is progressive, helps students get good results and are dedicated to the promotion of the subject and the success and enjoyment of the students.

Geography is highly valued by universities as an A Level choice. The Russell Group report published in 2011 names geography as one of the eight facilitating subjects. This is a subject most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and choosing facilitating subjects will keep more options open to you at university.

Your A Level geography course will cover both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment. This is complex and dynamic and varies from place to place depending on people's resources, technology and culture. There is plenty of room for discussion and extended research which will help you become an independent thinker and learner by the time you get to your exams you will be able to show your understanding of a range of opinions and be able to illustrate your answers with case studies from local, national and international examples

Geography combines well with both arts and science subjects. You may already be thinking ahead to potential university and career choices so it is worth bearing in mind that geography is a broad based subject that really fits well for your future progression. For example, for careers in sustainability and green issues, urban regeneration, energy supply, retail location, managing the effects of hazards and climate change geography is an obvious choice. For careers in the world of business an understanding of global economics forms an important part of geography. If you are thinking of a career in law, human rights, international relations or welfare then geography gives you the opportunity to consider relevant issues such as; How do we measure development? What are the consequences of migration on societies? If you are aiming at a future course in Medicine or Vet Med then geography is a good choice to give your A Level options the breadth that universities like as you will gain a clear understanding of how the environment affects health and survival of people, animals and ecosystems as well as enhancing your skills of writing essays and extended reports.



Of course many A Level students do not yet have a clear idea of what kind of career they might want to pursue so if this is you then remember that geography as an A level gives you the chance to keep your options open as it covers both arts and science components. It is quite likely that when you choose geography your classmates will all be doing different combinations of A Level subjects – this adds to the interest when it comes to discussions on issues as everyone will have very different ways of thinking and expressing their opinions.

To get a top grade you will need to read around the subject in newspapers and through magazine and internet articles. TV and radio documentaries are a rich source of current issues too.

Fieldwork will be an essential part of your A Level course. You may even get to go on a residential trip to experience a very different environment to the one where you live, for example you may visit the Lake District.

Transition work

To give you the best possible start to AS level, and to really help you with the transition from GCSE to AS level we have prepared some summer work for you.

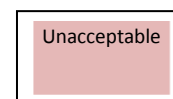
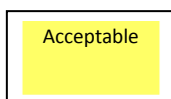
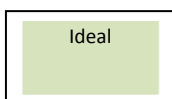
You must;

Complete the independent preparation sheets on the topics of Rivers, floods and management, and Population, using the photocopied reading resources provided.

You should;

Complete the Chart on the qualities needed to be a brilliant geographer;

<u>Key areas</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
Class work (concentration, focus on task, standard)			
Homework (time, presentation, length, references)			
Extended writing			
Independent Learning			
Preparation for lessons (prior reading, equipment, textbooks)			
Participation in lessons			
Revision			
Out of class hours learning			



You could;

Read and take notes on the website pages on <http://www.coolgeography.co.uk> in the A level section on the topics of;

- The drainage basin hydrological cycle
- Factors affecting hydrographs
- global patterns of urbanisation

Good luck on the course!

<p>Topic: Water Cycle – The hydrological cycle is a system.</p>	<p><u>Water and Carbon Cycle</u></p>
<p>Reading: “AQA A-level Geography” Skinner et al. P2 to 3</p>	
<p>Glossary:</p> <p>Hydrological cycle –</p> <p>Flow/transfer –</p> <p>Input –</p> <p>Store/component –</p> <p>System –</p> <p>System boundary –</p> <p>Isolated systems –</p> <p>Open systems –</p> <p>Closed systems –</p> <p>Dynamic equilibrium –</p> <p>Positive feedback –</p> <p>Negative feedback –</p> <p>Cascading system –</p>	
<p>Notes</p>	
<p>Key learning points:</p>	<p>Diagrams or maps: (2 diagrams, positive and negative feedbacks)</p>

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Questions to ask at the start of next lesson

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)

- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)

- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

Case studies or examples (explain a system and a feedback)

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Teachers Initials

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Topic: Global patterns of urbanization since

Contemporary Urban Environments

1945

Reading: *Pages 418 -419 of David Waugh, "Geography, an integrated approach"*

Geofactsheet 37 – megacities

Pages 379 to 381 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al

Glossary:

Urbanisation

Rural

Globalisation

Informationalisation

Colonialisation

Industrialisation

Natural Population growth

Rural to urban migration

Urban

Rate of change

Push factor

Pull factor

Notes

Key learning points:

Diagrams or maps:

Questions to ask at the start of next lesson

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