

Geography is a continuously evolving subject that involves us all - it looks at the key global issues that are having an impact today and which will affect our futures. AQA Geography helps give a greater awareness of how we behave, emphasising the importance of the relationship between people in different countries, their impact on the environment and their impact on each other.

***“Geography graduates are highly employable”***

**The Times Educational Supplement**

### GCSE Geography is a course that:

- Encourages students to develop their own views, opinions and arguments
- Explores global sustainability investigating economic, social and environmental issues that affect all our futures
- Emphasises decision-making and problem solving
- Helps students understand how we are all connected - local actions have global impacts!

### The Teaching

Geography develops a wide range of skills that employer’s value – it links the arts with the sciences. Field work forms an integral part of the course. The syllabus is covered by using: a mixture of formal class teaching, video presentations, geographical simulations and games, collection of fieldwork data and library research.

### AQA GCSE Course Structure and Assessment Overview

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>Assessment Type/Weighting</b>	<b>Exam duration/Marks</b>
Unit 1: Living with the Physical Environment	Terminal exam – 35%	1 hour and 30 mins 88 marks including 3 SPAG
Unit 2: Challenges in the Human Environment	Terminal Exam – 35%	1 hour and 30 mins 88 marks including 3 SPAG
Unit 3: Geographical Investigation	Terminal Exam – 30% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue investigation 15%</li> <li>• Fieldwork 15%</li> </ul>	1 hour and 15 mins 76 marks including 6 SPAG

### Overview of Specification Content

<b>1. Living with the Physical Environment</b>	<b>2. Challenges in the Human Environment</b>	<b>3. Geographical Applications</b>
<b>Challenges of Natural Hazards:</b> tectonic hazards, tropical storms, extreme weather in UK, climate change	<b>Urban Challenges:</b> global patterns, two contrasting cities, sustainable urban futures	<b>Issue evaluation:</b> theme issue can be selected from any compulsory part of specification. Based on secondary sources.
<b>The Living World:</b> local ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests, cold environments	<b>The Changing Economic World:</b> global patterns, closing the development gap, contrasting studies of economic development	<b>Fieldwork:</b> two fieldwork enquiries in contrasting environments, physical and human geography, enquiry process
<b>Physical Landscapes and Processes:</b> Coastal and river landscapes	<b>The Challenge of Resource Management:</b> overview of	

	resources in the UK and global resource security – energy	
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### How will Geography help me?

This course will enable you to develop a range of key skills which will be essential for whatever post-16 or 18 opportunities you pursue. The key skills you will be able to develop during this course are:

- Effective communication skills (written and verbal)
- Informed decision making skills
- Data analyses and evaluation skills
- Information Technology
- Problem solving and lateral thinking skills
- Teamwork and leadership
- Independent learning and research skills

Of course, many of you use geography as a way of showing your general ability. In this way, it is a good general qualification and can lead to employment in most types of jobs and can help you qualify for entrance to many further courses at school, college or university.

All good universities and post-18 institutions look upon geography as a subject that links the Arts and Sciences; as such it opens up a wide range of higher education and career opportunities; it does not force you to make an early commitment.

Looking beyond GCSE, Geography combines well with almost all other AS and A2 Level subjects. Taken with sciences like mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology, geography supports applications for almost any science-based university course like engineering, psychology, environmental sciences and geology; taken with humanities like English, French, history or economics, geography supports an equally wide range of university courses such as business, law, media, politics and philosophy.

#### **YEAR 10**

Autumn 1	<b>Challenges of Natural Hazards:</b> Tectonic hazards
Autumn 2	<b>Physical Landscapes and Processes:</b> Coastal landscapes
Spring 1	<b>Physical Landscapes and Processes:</b> River landscapes
Spring 2	<b>The Living World:</b> Local ecosystems and Tropical Rainforests,
Summer 1	<b>The Challenge of Resource Management:</b> Overview of resources in the UK and global resource security: energy
Summer 2	<b>Geographical skills and Fieldwork Enquiry</b>

#### **YEAR 11**

Autumn 1	<b>Challenges of Natural Hazards:</b> Tropical storms, extreme weather in UK, climate change
Autumn 2	<b>Urban Challenges:</b> global patterns, two contrasting cities, sustainable urban futures

Spring 1	<b>The Changing Economic World:</b> Global patterns, closing the development gap, contrasting studies of economic development
Spring 2	<b>Issue Evaluation Preparation and Revision</b>
Summer 1	<b>Revision</b>
Summer 2	<b>Terminal Exams</b> <b>Unit 1:</b> Living with the Physical Environment      35% <b>Unit 2:</b> Challenges in the Human Environment      35% <b>Unit 3:</b> Geographical Investigation                      30% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue investigation 15%</li> <li>• Fieldwork 15%</li> </ul>

*All units are assessed y end of unit tests and exam questions for homework. Students will also sit end of Year Mocks in Year 10 and Mocks in Year 11*

Recommended reading/Revision tools-

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

<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zkw76sg>