

GCSE Geography

Exam board: AQA

Course Description:

Year 9 will be the first year of the GCSE course. They will study two of the six topics this year. Throughout the year they will be using geographical skills to develop exam technique.

Course content:

Term 1 - Restless Earth – Plate tectonics and volcanoes.

Term 2 - Restless Earth – Earthquakes and tsunamis.

Term 3 - Climate change and the impact on global weather.

Term 4 - UK weather and climate change

Term 5 - Urban issues and challenges.

Term 6 - Urban issues and challenges with geographical skills.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities:

Every student studying geography will take part in at least two days out in the field. They will practise a range of fieldwork techniques and apply their understanding out of the classroom.

Important information:

The GCSE course requires students to appreciate how different aspects of the world around them interlink as well as the role human and physical features have on a variety of scales. A geography student must show, and will be supported to develop, the relevant skills to carry out fieldwork and analyse data effectively.

Useful websites:

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography

Provision for the Most Able:

An integral part of each lesson is exam technique work this provides realistic opportunities for students to learn how to tackle a variety of exam questions. This will be in the format of long exam questions after a certain theme or as data response question at the start of the lessons. After each topic, geography students will be examined on past GCSE papers to make them familiar with the structure of the questions. The most able will be provided with relevant mark schemes and guidance to achieve the top level answers.

Assessment:

Students will be required to undertake actual GCSE questions throughout the year which will be marked to GCSE criteria. There will also be formal end of unit tests which require multiple questions to be done under timed conditions.