

GEOGRAPHY

PLEASE CONSULT: Mrs L Webber

TITLE OF SYLLABUS: OCR A GCSE GEOGRAPHY

QUALIFICATION: GCSE

GRADE RANGE: 1 - 9

WEIGHTING OF ASSESSMENT:

EXAMINATION: 100% across 3 papers

PREVIOUS A*-C EXAMINATION RESULTS: 2015 - 52%, 2014 - 35%, 2013 – 17%, 2012 – 53%

Course Description:

Studying Geography at GCSE level provides students with excellent transferrable skills and deepens their knowledge of environmental, social and political issues. The course is growing in popularity and has been updated to reflect current events around the world.

Geography has solid links to other curriculum areas and students will find this GCSE compliments their work in subjects such as English, maths and science. Students will work towards the GCSE awarded by OCR, following specification A.

The GCSE course develops pupil understanding of tectonics, coastal processes, climate change, population dynamics, globalisation, settlements and urban change. Lessons are designed to enhance the students' understanding of issues and their knowledge of places in a local, national and global context. Students will be given the opportunity to further develop map reading skills, utilise ICT to present data, analyse photographs and video footage, develop balanced arguments, produce extended writing and visual materials such as mind maps and annotated diagrams. Students will also complete 2 days of fieldwork as part of the course.

Topics for Study:

- **Unit 1: Living in the UK today** – this covers landscapes of the UK, people of the UK and UK environmental challenges.
- **Unit 2: The World Around Us** – Ecosystems of the planet, people of the planet and environmental threats to our planet;
- **Unit 3: Geographical Skills** – This paper is in two sections. Section A requires the use of geographical skills and synoptic assessment of visual materials. Section B assesses fieldwork skills relating to pupils' own experience and unfamiliar contexts.

*Please note the specification is awaiting approval and there is a chance that slight changes will be made to the topics for study or assessment arrangements.

Resources and equipment needed:

In addition to the standard equipment required, students will benefit from access to reporting of the news and current affairs, as well as the internet for research. Also useful are word processing and presentation software.

In addition, the course is supported by a course specific text book (Edexcel GCSE Geography G Evolving Planet Student Book) and a revision guide (Exam Skills Practice, EDEXCEL GCSE Geography B: Evolving Planet Support – Student Workbook) produced by Pearson and available from all high street and online suppliers.

Careers and Further Educational Opportunities:

Geography remains a widely respected and understood qualification with higher education providers and employers. Further courses can be taken at AS, A and degree level. Most jobs will use some aspect of Geography, but it has specific application in planning, surveying, military, hydrology, civil engineering, tourism, aid work, meteorology and the environmental fields to name a few.