



Geography

Qualification

OCR GCSE in Geography

Objectives

By the end of the course students should have:

- Acquired knowledge and understanding of a range of places, environments and geographical patterns at a range of scales, as well as an understanding of physical and human process
- Development a sense of place and appreciation of the environment
- Awareness of the ways in which people and environments interact and the importance of sustainable development in those interactions
- Developed an understanding of global citizenship and the way in which places and environments are interdependent
- Recognised that geography is dynamic because places, features, patterns and issues change
- Acquired skills and techniques needed to conduct geographical study and enquiry
- Developed a critical understanding and appreciation of people's values and attitudes as well as their own.

Overview

The GCSE Geography syllabus is open to all students and allows pupils to study many present-day problems and issues from within the UK and Europe, and in other parts of the world. The course explores many aspects of geography covered at key stage 3 at a higher level. The course looks at both the human environment and the natural environment, and how both influence each other. We encourage pupils to make informed judgements about the world in which we live, and hope to expand their knowledge by using many current issues, through specific case studies and examples. These can range from a local to an international scale. Fieldwork is an integral part of the course. At present studies are made of the River Ouse (East Sussex) and the London Docklands.

Skills

The course requires students to have some basic skills from Key Stage 3 and aims to develop them extensively during the two year course.

- Reading and writing skills
- Map work skills
- Decision making skills
- Interpretation skills
- Graphing skills
- Field work skills
- Data collection and analysis skills
- Thinking skills

Course Content

Four key themes are covered:

Theme 1

Rivers and Coasts

The hydrosphere, river and coastal landforms, management of rivers and coasts

Theme 2

Population and Settlement

Population structure, population change, migration, where people live

Theme 3

Natural Hazards

What are natural hazards, what causes them and their impact

Theme 4

Economic Development

Changing patterns of work, development, trade and aid, globalisation

Assessment

End of course tiered examination.

Coursework

25%

Undertaken in June of the final year of the course.

Written Exam

75%

Paper 1 1½ hours (50%) 3 examination questions based on the themes studied.
Paper 2 1 hour (25%) Decision making paper based on one of the themes studied.

Coursework (25%) based on fieldwork investigation and completed with a specific time period.