

# GCSE Geography

The Geography GCSE course builds upon prior knowledge from the topics and skills studied in KS3.

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## Do I need to have certain qualities/skills to do this subject?

This exciting and topical course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the social, economic and environmental links between them.

Students will travel the world from the classroom, focusing on current issues and world events, exploring case studies in the UK, newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include hazards (tectonics, weather and climate change), UK physical geography (rivers and coasts), Ecosystems (tropical rainforests and hot deserts), Changing economic world (mega cities, Liverpool, Rio De Janeiro), Development (UK and Nigeria), Resources (food, water and energy) and Fieldwork.

This course highlights the critical importance of geography for understanding the world and for stimulating an interest in places. It will inspire you to become global citizens by exploring your place in the world, your values and responsibilities to other people and to the stewardship of the environment.



## What will I Learn?

### Unit 1 – Living with the physical environment

- The challenge of natural hazards – Volcanoes & Earthquakes, Tropical storms, Extreme weather in the UK, Climate change
- Physical landscapes in the UK – Mountains, Rivers and Coasts
- The living world – Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests & Hot Deserts
- Geographical skills – cartographic, graphical, numerical and statistical skills, use of Atlases, OS maps and photos with maps, use of qualitative and quantitative data, formulate enquiry and argument

### Unit 2 – Challenges in the human environment

- Urban issues and challenges – Urbanisation, UK city urban change- Liverpool, sustainable urban living & managing resources and transport
- The changing economic world – Global development gap, UK changing employment patterns and regional growth
- The challenge of resource management – Global distribution and UK changing demand and provision of food, water and energy resources

### Unit 3 – Geographical applications

- Issue evaluation – a critical thinking and problem-solving element providing opportunities to demonstrate geographical skills and applied knowledge and understanding (booklet released 12 weeks before the exam)
- Fieldwork – undertake 2 geographical enquiries in contrasting environments which includes collection and use of primary data. Much work will be ICT based with a range of visual resources and stimuli.

## Does this lead to a qualification?

Yes, this is a single GCSE qualification accredited by the Examination Board AQA. Assessment grading 9-1.

## Does this qualification have a controlled assessment and/or an examination?

The course is divided into 3 units. All 3 units are externally assessed by a 1 hour 30min exam.

**Further information available from:** Ms. Langan, Ms. Lomax, Mr. Thorpe

## What can I do with this qualification?

**Further studies at Sixth Form:** AS & A2 Level Geography, International Baccalaureate.

Due to its physical and human elements, Geography is considered as both a scientific and humanities subject at university.

**Careers:** Advertising, Banking, Meteorology, Architecture, Law, Sport and Recreation, Environmental Health, Tourism, Volcanologist, Conservation, Civil Engineering, Town Planning, Education.