

Key Stage 4

We follow Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography B

Component 1 – Global Geographical Issues

Topic 1 – Hazardous Earth – an understanding of the global circulation of the atmosphere and changing climate. Plus two in-depth studies of an extreme weather hazard (tropical cyclones) and tectonic hazards at contrasting locations.

Topic 2 – Development Dynamics – an understanding of the scale of global inequality. Plus an in-depth study of how one emerging country is developing and the consequences for people, environment and the country's relationship with the wider world.

Topic 3 – Challenges of an Urbanising World – an overview of the causes and challenges of rapid urbanisation across the world. Plus one in-depth study of a megacity in a developing or emerging country.

Component 2 – UK Geographical Issues

Topic 4 – The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape (coasts and rivers) – an overview of the varied physical landscapes in the UK resulting from geology, geomorphic processes and human activity over time. Plus two in-depth studies of distinctive landscapes – coastal change and conflict and river processes and pressures.

Topic 5 – The UK's Evolving Human Landscape (Urban and rural) – an overview of the changing and varied human landscape of the UK, including the socio-economic and political processes that influence it. Plus a case study of a major UK city/dynamic UK cities.

Topic 6 – Geographical Investigations – fieldwork involving coastal areas and urban areas. Two investigations, including fieldwork and research, carried out in contrasting environments, one from 'coastal change and conflict' or 'river processes and pressures' and one of either 'dynamic urban areas' or 'changing rural areas'.

Component 3 – People and Environment Issues – Making Geographical Decisions

Topic 7 – People and the Biosphere – an overview of the global distribution and characteristics of large-scale eco-systems, why the biosphere is important to human wellbeing and how humans use and modify it in order to obtain resources.

Topic 8 – Forests under Threat – a detailed study of tropical rainforests and the taiga, looking at processes and interactions and issues related to their bio-diversity and to their sustainable use and management.

Topic 9 – Consuming Energy Resources – a study of renewable and non-renewable energy, its supply and demand, access and energy security issues, its sustainable use and management.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit three exams that comprise of three key components of the above. All exams take place at the end of Year 11.

Are there any costs?

There is a requirement for an out-of-classroom experience in which fieldwork must be undertaken. Walton-on-the-Naze fieldtrip.

Why study GCSE Geography?

Geography can open doors for you in the future as you will learn many real life skills that are transferable and desirable for GCE Level and the world of work! Check some of them out below:

- Lateral thinking
- Understanding the big picture
- Problem-solving
- Debating
- Decision-making
- Data collection and analysis
- Independent study and research
- Map work and Cartography
- Recording techniques and data manipulation
- Construction of maps and diagrams
- Field Sketching
- Evaluating work
- Group discussion
- Understanding current events
- Appreciating different cultures
- Global challenges
- Active citizenship
- Computer Literacy (IT skills)