

# Geography

## AQA

### GCSE



#### Course Description

The AQA Geography course is a new and exciting approach to Geography. It combines traditional Geographical skills and knowledge with the opportunity for students to draw upon their own experiences and use current topical Geography throughout their course.

#### What topics will I be covering?

This course has been chosen due to the wide range of up to date, engaging and varied topics. All topics are underpinned by key Geographical Skills. Topics include:

#### **Paper 1 - Physical geography- “Living with the physical environment”**

- **Unit A:** Challenges of natural hazards (*Earthquakes, Tropical storms and Climate Change*).

- **Unit B:** Physical landscapes in the UK (*Coasts and Glaciation*).

- **Unit C:** The living world (*Ecosystems, Rainforests and Hot Deserts*).

#### **Paper 2 - Human Geography- “Challenges in the human environment”**

- **Unit A:** Urban issues and challenges (*Impacts of urban growth in contrasting places*).

- **Unit B:** The changing economic world (*Development differences in contrasting places*).

- **Unit C:** Resource management (*1. Water, food & energy in the UK 2. Global Energy Issues*)

#### **Paper 3 - Geographical skills- “Geographical applications in issues and fieldwork”**

- **Unit A:** Issue evaluation (*A pre-release booklet is studied in the lead-up to the exam*).

- **Unit B:** Fieldwork (*Completion of two pieces of fieldwork in different places*).

- **Unit C:** Geographical skills (*All exams will use data from maps, graphs and photos*).

#### How much of the course is examination or Controlled Assessment?

**Examinations** – All students will sit the same exam paper. Details for each paper:

#### **Paper 1 - Physical geography– 35% (1hour 30mins)**

Written exam with some choice of questions.

#### **Paper 2 - Human Geography – 35% (1Hour 30 mins)**

Written exam with some choice of questions.

#### **Paper 3 - Geographical applications/skills – 30% (1hr 15 mins)-Written exam using a range**

of resource materials. Fieldwork activities and findings are also assessed as part of this exam.



***How much work is required after school?***

Students will complete weekly homework tasks. These will be based around independent research areas, exam questions and using the extensive revision resources available on Firefly. Revision and catch-up sessions are also delivered at various points throughout the year.

***How is the work assessed and when?***

Formal and informal assessment tasks take place throughout the course. Students receive detailed feedback on their current progress at regular intervals. We will then identify students to praise and push onto the next grade and also those who require a little more support. Throughout the course students are always challenged to achieve their potential in a calm, purposeful and supportive learning environment.

***What do I need to achieve a good grade?***

Students who work hard and have an interest in the world around them always do well in Geography.

***If I want to study the subject after GCSE, what grade must I get?***

Most colleges require a grade '6' or above for A-level courses.

***What career options lead from this subject?***

Geographers are well suited to a wide variety of future courses and careers due to the extensive range of transferable skills in the subject. These skills include data interpretation, research, report writing and analysis of bias using different sources of evidence. Further details about the huge number of careers which 'directly' and 'indirectly' link to Geography can be found on the "Careers in Geography" page-located in the Geography section on Firefly

