



Geography

GCSE 2024 - 2026



Examination Board

OCR B GCSE Geography J384

What will I be studying?

Topic 1: Global Hazards

This topic allows students to develop an understanding of a variety of different hazards that impact human lives and both within the UK and worldwide. Students investigate how weather can be hazardous gaining knowledge of the major processes within the atmosphere that have an impact in creating extreme weather. Students will study two case studies of natural weather events and one case study to explore the causes, consequences and responses to a tectonic event.

Topic 2: Changing Climate.

Climate change is one of the most important issues of the 21st Century. In this topic students will analyse patterns of climate change from the start of the quaternary period until the present day. Social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change at both local and global scales will be examined.

Topic 3: Distinctive Landscapes

The UK contains a diverse and distinctive range of landscapes. This topic gives students the opportunity to unravel the geographic processes that make them distinctive. Students will develop an understanding of the geomorphic processes that shape both coastal and river features, considering the influence humans have on these.

Topic 4: Sustaining Ecosystems

Life on Earth is supported by a diverse range of global ecosystems. This topic seeks to explore the distribution and characteristics of the Earth's ecological wonders. Students investigate the contrasting ecosystems of the polar environments and tropical rainforest, including their unique characteristics and threats posed to their existence.

Topic 5: Urban Futures

Cities are growing at unprecedented rates. This topic seeks to explore why and how the global pattern of urbanisation is changing. Students will examine two cities, one from an Advanced Country (AC) and one from an Emerging and Developing Country (EDC). Within each city contrasting ways of life, challenges and solutions will be studied.

Topic 6: Dynamic Development

We live in an unequal world where the gap between prosperity and poverty is widening. This topic asks learners to consider the changing nature and distribution of countries along the development spectrum. The future of LIDCs is uncertain and will be investigated through an in-depth study of one country, considering its journey so far and how its global connections may influence its future.

Topic 7: UK in the 21st Century

A diverse range of cultures, identities and economies make up the patchwork of the UK. This topic poses questions about the changing nature of people's lives and work in the UK. As new superpowers emerge, questions must be answered about the global significance of the UK.

Topic 8: Resource Reliance

Supplies of food, water and energy are three of the most significant challenges facing the world. Significant numbers of people are resource poor, whilst others consume more than their fair share. Students will investigate what it means to be food secure, how countries try to achieve this and reflect on the sustainability of strategies to improve food security.

How will I be studying?

The course will be taught by 1 teacher and there will be range of activities including group work, discussions and written tasks. You will be expected to play an active role in lessons.

How will I be assessed?

There are 3 assessed elements to the GCSE

Paper One – **Our Natural World**: 1 hour and 15 minutes written paper. 70 marks. 35% of total GCSE.

Paper Two – **People and Society**: 1 hour and 15 minutes written paper. 70 marks. 35% of total GCSE.

Paper Three – **Geographical Exploration**: 1 hour and 30 minutes written paper. 60 marks. 30% of total GCSE.

Fieldwork:

Geographical fieldwork can be defined as the experience and understanding of applying specific geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to a particular and real out-of-classroom context. Fieldwork is an essential skill in Geography. It will help you to develop a wide range of employability skills including: organisation, planning, precision, analysis, evaluation, team work and leadership. To pass GCSE Geography you will need to complete both human and physical fieldwork in contrasting locations. Physical fieldwork will be completed towards the end of year 10, where students visit Hunstanton to explore the effects of coastal management on the coastline. Human fieldwork will then be conducted at the start of year 11, with a more local study.

Where Next?

Geography is a wide-ranging subject which can be used to follow degrees in Human Geography, Physical Geography, Geology, Town Planning, Environmental Science and Leisure & Tourism. It can lead to careers involving the management of people, the environment and resources and in the fields of public administration, teaching, planning, tourism, transport and environmental organisations.