GCSE Exam Board:

Edexcel (A)

Entry Requirement:

At least Grade 4 in Year

9 Geography

1. WHO IS IT SUITABLE FOR?

Geography helps you to understand our rapidly changing world and is suitable for any

one with an enquiring mind who wants to know how our planet works and how people

interact with it.. Students who are interested in current events and how we could

sustainably manage our environment in the future should chose Geography GCSE.

If you enjoy Geography and have a natural interest in both the physical and human world,

you will gain much from the course. It is also important that you are good at English and

Maths as many skills learnt in these subjects are required to do well in GCSE Geography.

‘Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future.

What could be more important than that?’ Michael Palin

2. WHAT WILL I LEARN?

The course will cover three units during the two years:

Unit 1 – The Physical Environment

Unit 2 – The Human Environment

Unit 3 – Geographical investigations: fieldwork and UK challenges

As part of the GCSE Geography course you need to take part in two pieces of fieldwork in

contrasting places. At Twyford these trips are likely to include a trip to a river and study day in

Brighton at the end of Year 10.

3. HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

All units will be tested through 1 hour 30 minute exams at the end of Year 11. Units 1 and 2 are

worth 37.5% each and Unit 3 is worth 25% of the overall GCSE.

4. WHAT ARE THE CONTROLLED COURSEWORK & HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS?

There is no longer controlled coursework in Geography. In place of this students will answer

exam questions about both fieldwork experiences as part of the Unit 3 paper. It is vital that the

fieldwork days are completed so that students can apply this knowledge and understanding in

the exams.

Homework is an integral part of the course and is used to reinforce ideas, whilst allowing

students to explore the topics in more depth. GCSE Geography students are regularly set

homework, and will have prep to complete after each lesson. The frequency and length are in

line with whole-school expectations.

5. WHAT SKILLS DO I NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS SUBJECT AT GCSE AND BEYOND?

Geography combines a wide variety of skills including:

• Good written communication skills

• Data presentation and analysis skills, including the use of ICT

• Research and investigation through fieldwork

• Understanding maps at a range of scales

• Decision making and problem solving based on unseen information

• To have an interest in the world around you and current affairs

• To enjoy reading and writing about the world in which you live

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