GEOGRAPHY

Edexcel Examining Board – Geog B (gcse 9 – 1)

OPTIONAL EXAMINATION SUBJECTS

• Develop and extend their knowledge of a wider range of locations, places, environments and processes.

• Gain understanding of the interactions between people and environments as well as changes in places and processes over space and time focussed on the United Kingdom in particular.

• Develop and extend their competence in a range of analytical skills, including those used in fieldwork and maps.

• Use Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping software to visualise trends and regularly use digital research to find sources of secondary evidence.

• Apply geographical knowledge, understanding, skills and approaches appropriately and creatively to real-world contexts, including fieldwork, and contemporary issues.

AIM

The aim and objectives of the GCSE Geography qualification are to enable students to build on their Key Stage 3 knowledge and skills to:

CONTENT

There are three core units of study:

Unit 1: Global Geographical Issues: 37.5% of this qualification

Content overview

Topic 1: Hazardous Earth (The study of earthquakes and hurricanes.)

Topic 2: Development dynamics (How the world is improving conditions.)

Topic 3: Challenges of an urbanising world (How cities in developed and developing countries function.)

Unit 2: UK Geographical Issues: 37.5% of this qualification

Content overview

Topic 4: The UK’s evolving physical landscape including sub-topics A4: Coastal change and

conflict and 4B: River processes and pressures.

Topic 5: The UK’s evolving human landscape including an in-depth study of a dynamic UK

city (Milton Keynes).

Topic 6: Geographical investigations – including one physical fieldwork investigation and one human fieldwork investigation.

Unit 3: People & Environment Issues – Making Geographical Decisions: 25% of this

qualification

Content overview

Topic 7: People and the biosphere (Understanding how natural resources must be managed in growing world.)

Topic 8: Forests under threat (How we must protect and preserve rainforest and pine forest environments.)

Topic 9: Consuming energy resources (How different energy sources affect the planet and ecosystems.)

For each unit a wide range of examples and in-depth studies are used at local, national and global levels. Contemporary problems such as poverty, famine, disease, extreme weather, global warming and natural hazards are examined, often in the context of current affairs.

ASSESSMENT

The qualification comprises of three units, all assessed by a written examination at the end of the two year course. All three papers are 1 hour 30 minutes each in duration.

OTHER INFORMATION

It is a formal requirement of the course that all students undertake two days of fieldwork: one investigation in a physical environment investigating river processes and pressures (the river Chess) and a second investigation in a human environment investigating dynamic urban areas (Milton Keynes).