Qualification/level at the end of the course: GCSE

Course description: students will travel the world from their classroom,

exploring case studies in the United Kingdom (UK), higher income countries (HICs),

newly emerging economies (NEEs) and lower income countries (LICs). Topics of study include climate change,

poverty, deprivation, global shifts in economic power and the challenge of sustainable resource use. Students are

also encouraged to understand their role in society, by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes.

The fully approved syllabus provided by the exam board is outlined below:

Paper 1 - Living with the physical environment

Section A - the challenge of natural hazards (tectonic hazards, weather hazards, climate change)

Section B - the living world (ecosystems, tropical rainforests, hot deserts)

Section C - physical landscapes in the UK (coastal landscapes, river landscapes)

35% of the course, 88 marks, 1hr 30min.

Paper 2 - Challenges in the human environment

Section A - urban issues and challenges (social, economic, environmental challenges and opportunities in UK cities,

urban sustainability)

Section B - the changing economic world (the development gap and quality of life around the world, rapid growth

of cities around the world and the challenges and opportunities they bring, economic future of UK cities)

Section C - the challenge of resource management (food, water, energy)

35% of course, 88 marks, 1hr 30min

Paper 3 - Geographical applications

Section A - issue evaluation—a resource booklet will be available 12 weeks before the exam based around a core

topic of the syllabus. The assessment will provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate geographical skills

and applied knowledge and understanding by looking at a particular issue(s) derived from the specification using

secondary sources.

Section B - fieldwork - students need to undertake two geographical enquiries, each of which must include the use

of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise. Attendance at these two days is compulsory and there

may be a nominal financial contribution required.

30% of course, 76 marks, 1hr 15min

What happens if I want to study Geography and History?

Pick your first preference within the core block and then choose your second choice as an option.