Examination Board: AQA

Course Content

Across the two years of GCSE you will have the opportunity to study both human and physical Geography topics and get your

boots dirty out in the field. This GCSE course has three main exam components:

Paper one - Physical Geography Unit (1.5 hour exam worth 35%)

In this unit, you will study The Living World which is all about ecosystems and our management of them. We will focus in on

the tropical rainforests and as a contrast, the colder regions of our world. You will also study Natural Hazards which includes

earthquakes and how we can reduce the impact of them along with more contemporary issues such as climate change and

how we can reduce the impact of this for future generations. The final area of study in the Physical Geography unit is Physical

Landscapes of the UK, in this unit we will study the distribution of key features such as our mountain ranges and rivers. You

will study the physical processes at work along both our coastal and river systems.

Paper two - Human Geography Unit (1.5 hour exam worth 35%)

In this unit, you will study The Challenge of Urban Environments where we will investigate the problems of living in an urban

world and strategies to reduce the impact, we will also examine the Changing Economic World and look at how poorer

countries around the world can take steps to develop along with how the economy has changed within the richer countries

of the world. The final area of study will be the contemporary unit of Managing Resources. We all know that humans rely on

finite resources and that there are hungry people around the world, this unit explores possible solutions to these global issues.

Paper three - Geographical Issues Unit (1.25 hour exam worth 30%)

This unit is a new feature of GCSE Geography. The first section is based around a pre-release booklet and could cover any area

of the course. The exam board release this booklet 12 weeks before the exam in June of Year 11.

The second half of this unit is based around fieldwork. There is a course requirement for students to undertake two days

of fieldwork across their GCSE course. Students will need to be involved in the planning, carrying out and the write up of

their fieldwork. There will need to be a human and physical geography fieldwork experience - previous visits have included

a coastal trip to Hunstanton and an urban trip to Bedford. While attending the trips is not compulsory, students may find

themselves at a disadvantage if they do not attend these trips.

Should you require any more information, please see either Mr Allcott or Mrs Whitsey