

# GEOGRAPHY

**EXAMINING BOARD:** WJEC

**TITLE:** GEOGRAPHY SPECIFICATION A

**ACCREDITATION:** GCSE in Geography grades A\* - G

**NATURE OF THE SUBJECT:**

In this subject you will find out about:

- ❖ A range of places in the UK, Europe and elsewhere in the world.
- ❖ The ways in which natural processes have produced different landscapes.
- ❖ How people interact with these landscapes and how people can act together to prevent the total destruction of the environments.
- ❖ How people are affected by the action and decision-making by others locally, nationally and globally.
- ❖ The importance of sustainability when making decisions about how places and environments should be managed.

You will learn to investigate ideas, develop your own opinions and reach decisions using map skills, fieldwork research and ICT.

**THE CONTENT:**

You will study the following topics:

Unit 1

1. River processes and management.
2. Climate change
3. Living in an Active Zone – earthquakes and volcanoes.
4. Changing Populations
5. Globalisation
6. Development

Unit 2

You will also study three topics from the following list:

Coasts, Weather and Climate, Tropical Rainforests, Tourism, Retail and Urban Change.

**NATURE OF THE WORK:**

The nature of the work varies according to the topic studied. The necessity of using the internet to access up to date information is key to all topics. Decision making activities form an important part of the course. This will be achieved through interpreting graphs, maps and photographs. You will also have the opportunity to participate in debates and group work activities. A compulsory part of the course is the participation in fieldtrips. Throughout the GCSE Geography, you will develop a wide range of skills that will enhance your ability to interpret information as well as making decisions.

## **ASSESSMENT:**

Unit 1 is assessed by examination and will be taken at the end of Year 10. This accounts for 40% of the mark. Unit 2 is also examined and contributes 35% of the final mark. This paper will be taken in Year 11.

Unit 3 involves Geographical Enquiry and is worth 25% of the marks. This will involve two controlled assessments. The first will follow on from a fieldtrip activity. All of the research and preparation will be done in class. You will then have 10 hours of class time to write up the investigation. The second task will involve a decision making exercise and again, this will be completed during class time.

Each of the examination papers has two tiers:

- A Higher Tier paper aimed at pupils capable of gaining a higher GCSE grade of A\* to C.
- A Foundation Tier paper (1¾ Hours) aimed at pupils capable of gaining a C to G grade.

## **POSSIBLE CAREERS:**

Geography is an academic subject with a firm grounding in the real world. The skills you develop in Geography are highly regarded by universities and employers. There are many career choices that are linked to the study of Geography, for example:

*Planning, Civil Service, surveying, cartography, environmental auditing, environmental management, transport management, travel agency, forestry service, agriculture, landscaping, conservation, National Park and Country Park management, heritage management, water engineering, flood defence officers, H.M. Forces, meteorology, soil surveying, personnel departments, market research, marketing, tourist office, city centre officer, law, police force.*

## **WHO IS SUITABLE FOR THIS COURSE?**

You will be successful and enjoy this course if you are interested in people and places. Ideally, you will be interested in what is happening in the world today and how management decisions will affect life in the future.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Please see Miss C. Benson – T7