

Geography Curriculum

KS4 Curriculum Summary

Introduction

In Geography, Year 9 is a transition year between Key Stage 3 and GCSE. This allows us to cover topics which we consider are some of the most fascinating and relevant in the subject while encouraging students to work to a high GCSE standard. We deal with a number of important topics which are essential to have a firm grounding in before commencing GCSE (such as 'Population'), even though those topics are not discrete units on the GCSE specification. We also take the opportunity through "Extreme Geographies" to teach places and processes that are not typically included on most Geography curriculums but which we think will stretch and challenge Judd students and spark their imagination.

We formally begin the Geography GCSE in Year 10 and follow a sequence of topics, alternating between Human and Physical Geography to ensure that students are regularly engaged with both sides of the subject. Lesson content is naturally guided by the stipulations of the GCSE specification, however we always keep the course current and include the most up-to-date case studies and examples. The practical fieldwork component of the course is covered in Year 10; this involves students completing a full investigation including preparatory work, primary and secondary data collection, data analysis and evaluation. Via fieldwork, students have the opportunity to learn a number of statistical, cartographic and graphical techniques which are valuable across the rest of the course and beyond. Indeed, many of the topics and skills covered in GCSE Geography provide not only a firm basis for further study in this subject, but are also relevant and useful for students choosing to study unfamiliar subjects like Economics or Politics at A level.

Exam board: Pearson Edexcel - Specification A

GCSE Specification: [https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-A/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Geography_A_Issue3%20GCSE%20\(9-1\)%20Specification.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-A/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Geography_A_Issue3%20GCSE%20(9-1)%20Specification.pdf)

Non-Examination Assessment

There is no coursework at GCSE in Geography but all students are required to undertake two full days of fieldwork during the course.

Year 9

Topic	Principal resources
Global Development	<i>*Progress in Geography: Key Stage 3.</i> Gardner et al. (2018) Chapter 7 <i>*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges.</i> Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 5

	*Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Extreme Geographies	*Resources mostly developed by the Geography Department. *ArcGIS * <i>Progress in Geography: Key Stage 3</i> . Gardner et al. (2018) Chapter 5
Population Change	* <i>Progress in Geography: Key Stage 3</i> . Gardner et al. (2018) Chapter 8 *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Water Resources and Water Security	* <i>Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges</i> . Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 6B *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>

Year 10

Topic	Principal resources
Changing Cities	* <i>Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges</i> . Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 4 *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Fieldwork: Hastings	<i>Aims: To examine the urban structure, land use and environmental features of Hastings Old Town and New Town. To understand how to complete a fieldwork investigation in sequence: planning, data collecting, data analysis, data interpretation and evaluation. (First of two fieldworks required at GCSE)</i>
The Changing Landscapes of the UK	* <i>Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges</i> . Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 1
Glaciated Upland Landscapes and Processes	* <i>Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges</i> . Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 1C *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Coastal Landscapes and Processes	* <i>Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges</i> . Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 1A *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive</i>

	and GeoFile
Fieldwork: Pett Level, East Sussex	<i>Aims: To investigate coastal processes and landforms along a coastline. To understand how to complete a fieldwork investigation in sequence: planning, data collecting, data analysis, data interpretation and evaluation. (Second of fieldworks required at GCSE)</i>
<i>(In-depth place study: INDIA)</i> A case study of an Emerging or Developing Country (from the 'Global Development' topic completed in Year 11 (for 2024 and 2025 entry) or in year 9 (for 2026 entry onwards).	*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges. Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 5
Resource Management (Overview) and Energy Resource Management	*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges. Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 6 *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>

Year 11

Topic	Principal resources
Weather Hazards and Climate Change	*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges. Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 2 *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Management	*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges. Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 3 *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Global Development (without the case study, already completed in Year 10)	*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges. Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 5 *Selected resources from <i>Wideworld, GeoActive and GeoFile</i>
Geographical Investigation: UK Challenges	*Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A: Geographical Themes and Challenges. Bircher et al. (2016) Topic 8
Course revision (structured programme of revision working back through each topic in turn)	Targeted revision sheets provided by Geography Department during this period