



RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

FAO: Exams Officer and Head of Geography

Date: 5 January 2010

Subject: New GCSE Geography B

**IMPORTANT**

**Please pass a copy of this Notice to the Head of Geography responsible for  
New GCSE Geography B**

**This Notice sets out clarification of points which have arisen through INSET.**

**Specification**

Please ensure all teachers are using Version 3 of the specification, which is available on the OCR website at [http://www.ocr.org.uk/download/kd/ocr\\_9974\\_kd\\_gcse\\_spec.pdf](http://www.ocr.org.uk/download/kd/ocr_9974_kd_gcse_spec.pdf). In particular, please note the grid of unit coverage on page 7 and the advice concerning 'recent' case studies on page 16.

**Sustainable Decision Making exercise (full course only)**

The same theme will be set in June and the following January, but with different titles and resource booklets.

**Controlled assessment**

Please be reminded that centres should select both the Fieldwork Focus and the Geographical Investigation from the same set of titles (the one for the year in which they plan to submit the work to OCR). Both tasks must be submitted together.

A *Guide to Controlled Assessment* can be found on the GCSE Geography B page of the OCR website, along with other useful support and assessment materials and forms, by clicking 'View all documents'.

**Controlled assessment re-sits**

Candidates taking Specification B can enter controlled assessment in January or June. The titles are the same in the same calendar year. If candidates want to re-sit to improve their mark, they must follow the JCQ procedures, which make it clear that for a re-sit of controlled assessment the work must be entirely new.

For a candidate who submitted their controlled assessment in January and wants to re-sit it in June of the same calendar year, the centre must ensure that the work for both parts of the controlled assessment is entirely new. A candidate may not just redraft their original work.

The Geographical Investigation must be on a new task. However, for the Fieldwork Focus, it may be difficult to change the task, given that it will probably be related to a field trip. If this is the case, the candidate may use the original data collected, but the write-up must be entirely new and must be completed without access to the work submitted the first time. The work that they do on analysis and evaluation (high level of control) must be conducted under controlled conditions, as for the first attempt.

For a candidate who wants to re-sit the controlled assessment the following calendar year, the tasks set for both the Geographical Investigation and the Fieldwork Focus will be different from those of the previous year and the candidate will, of course, have to complete entirely new work.