

Introduction to GCSE Geography (Bristol Project)

Why study Geography?

Geography is the study of where places are and what they are like. It looks at how people live in different parts of the world and how and why places change. You will learn about global and local issues. This qualification can lead to further study of Geography and is useful in a variety of careers linked with tourism, agriculture, cartography, nature conservancy and surveying. A recent survey of employers showed that after Maths and English, Geography is rated as one of the most useful subjects because of the number of different skills used to study the subject.

You will study:

The course is enquiry-based, which means that you will investigate the answers to questions such as:

- * What are the landforms that make up a selected landscape like?
- * How do natural hazards affect people in parts of the world?
- * Why do some places experience growth while others decline?
- * How and why is the population of places changing?
- * How can the use of resources and environments best be developed and managed?

You will gain the following skills:

Practical skills, for example using:

- * Different kinds of maps and graphs;
- * Computers and Information and Communication Technology (ICT);
- * Instruments e.g. compasses, thermometers, and cameras.

Working with others and on your own:

- * Discussing, explaining and presenting your ideas;
- * Fieldwork, collecting and recording information for an investigation;
- * Problem-solving and decision making.

Assessment:

There is a choice between two levels of entry: Foundation and Higher. At Foundation level the grades available are G to C and at Higher level the grades available are D to A*. There are three aspects to your assessment.

Coursework

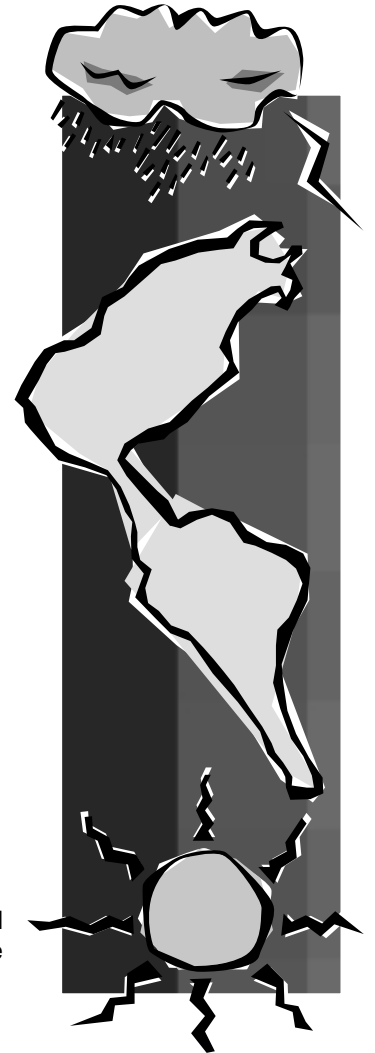
You will do one piece of coursework, a geographical investigation supported by fieldwork, map work and the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). You can submit two different geographical investigations at two different sessions; your best mark will go towards your final GCSE grade.

The Terminal Examination (2 hours 15 minutes)

This examination is taken at the end of the course.

Decision Making Exercise (1 hour 45 minutes)

For this examination you will apply your knowledge, understanding and skills to an environmental issue about sustainable development. You will study a resource booklet in lessons for three weeks before the examination and can take it into the examination with you. You can take two different Decision Making Exercises at two different sessions; your best mark will go towards your final GCSE grade.



GCSE

