

September 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

With the arrival of the second year of the A Level Geography course I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the work we will be covering in this important academic year.

Our A Level Geography students were given a handbook which contains vital information about their two year course. I urge you again to take a look at this for further information and to get to know what your son/daughter is studying. It also has some top tips for success, contracts, specification details, marking information, assessment objectives, an assessment record, key vocabulary and key dates.

Please see below the specification at a glance for the whole two years. You can find out more about this Geography qualification at [aqa.org.uk/geography](https://www.aqa.org.uk/geography).

Component 1: Physical geography

What's assessed

- Section A: Water and carbon cycles
- Section B: Coastal systems and landscapes
- Section C: Hazards

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 96 marks
- 40% of A-level

Component 2: Human geography

What's assessed

- Section A: Global systems and global governance
- Section B: Changing places
- Section C: Population and environment

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 96 marks
- 40% of A-level

Component 3: Geographical investigation

What's assessed

- Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field.
- The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

How it's assessed

- 3,000 – 4,000 words
- 35 marks
- 20% of A-level
- Marked by teachers moderated by AQA

Our A Level Geographers have already been working on their individual non-examined assessment, which prepares them for their Component 3: Geographical Investigation, which counts for 20% of their final A Level grade. The deadline for this coursework is **Monday 31st October 2022 at 3.35pm.**

This year there is a Y13 Geography trip organised to visit Fairford as part of their "Local Places" investigation. This will take place on **Friday 11th November.** This is invaluable for their "Changing Places" unit of work and will help them gain first-hand experience for this part of the course. There will be more details of this fieldtrip given to the students nearer the time.

In order to help support learning and provide references for our A Level students, these texts have been suggested to refer to:

- A/AS – Level Geography for AQA Student Book. Published by Cambridge University Press (ISBN 9781316606322).
- AQA Geography A Level and AS **Physical** Geography Student Book. Oxford University Press ISBN 9780198366515
- AQA Geography A Level and AS **Human** Geography Student Book. Oxford University Press ISBN 9780198366546
- AQA A Level Geography Fourth Edition Hodder Education ISBN 9781471858697

There are numerous revision guides too which we recommend our students have. Your son/daughter will have the opportunity to see a copy of all of these books during lesson time. Just ask the Geography Teacher.

I would just like to take the opportunity to ask for your assistance in encouraging your son/daughter to work hard during this academic year. We would expect all tasks set to be completed by the deadline and to as high a standard as possible.

Thank you in anticipation and we look forward to a successful academic year.

Yours sincerely,



Esme Batchelor
Head of Geography