

# GCSE GEOGRAPHY

## Course Overview

- **Exam Board** – AQA
- **Usual Age Range** – 14-16
- **Qualification** – 1 GCSE
- **Curriculum Time** – Three 50 minute lessons per week in class plus additional work in Independent Learning Time
- **Assessment** – this curriculum is assessed via:
  - Three 90 minute exams
- **Grading** – GCSE grades 1-9
- **Full specification** - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/introduction>

## Curriculum Intent

The intent of the Geography curriculum is to give UTC students an opportunity to develop their understanding of world developments. The intent is to ensure students have useful Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills that can be applied in future studies and future careers.

The intent of the Curriculum is to give students useful knowledge and understanding around human and physical geographical constructs. As well as this, the course aims to develop key geographical skills.

Suggested destinations after completion include A level Geography.

Related careers include working in social sciences or more scientific fields such as meteorology. A list of occupations can be found here: <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/geography>

## Study Tips

- GCSEPod – <https://www.gcsepod.com/gcse-learning-and-revision-pods/>
- Seneca – <https://senecalearning.com>
- Exam spec- <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/geography/specifications/AQA-8035-SP-2016.PDF>
- BBC Bitesize- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zy3ptyc>

*Note – we use specific case studies and students should revise our case study material.*

The learning in GCSE Geography is structured as follows.

Year 10:

### Half term 1

- What is a natural hazard and what is a risk?
- What tectonic activity do we know about and how does it occur?
- What are the impacts of tectonic activity? How does this change based on where you live?
- How can we manage a tectonic hazard?

### Half term 2

- Global atmospheric circulation
- The Global distribution of tropical storms
- How does a tropical storm form and its features
- How might climate change affect tropical storms
- Case Study: The effects of and responses to tropical storms and reducing the effects of tropical storms

### Half term 3

- Extreme weather hazards in the UK
- Case Study UK extreme weather: Somerset floods
- Management strategies to respond and reduce risk if extreme weather
- Investigating if extreme weather in the UK is on the rise
- Evidence for climate change, reasons for Climate Change

### Half term 4

- The effects of Climate Change and Managing Climate Change: Mitigation and Adaptation
- Ecosystems: How they operate and food chains. Ecosystem Case study and Food web
- Changes affecting the ecosystem
- Distribution and characteristics of global ecosystem
- Tropical rainforests have a range of distinctive characteristics and adaptations. Case Study

### Half term 5

- Cold environments have a range of distinctive characteristics
- Case Study Alaska Development of cold environments creates opportunities and challenges
- Cold environments are at risk from economic development and managing them
- The Physical diversity of the UK

### Half term 6

- Coastal Landscapes Waves, Weathering and Mass Movement
- Marine Processes and features
- Coastal Management: Hard engineering, Soft engineering, Coastal Realignment
- River profiles and features

Year 11:

### Half term 1

- Why do more people live in urban areas?
- What challenges does this bring?
- What opportunities does this create?
- Case study: Nigeria, Lagos.

### Half term 2

- Why are different places more developed than others?
- What ways can we close the development gap?
- A case study of how Nigeria is experiencing rapid development
- A case study of how Tourism has supported the development of Jamaica

### Half term 3

- Resource management: what are essential services that humans need access to?
- How has demand for these services changed?
- What is the demand for energy like across the world?
- How can we ensure different methods of supply are implemented?

### Half term 4

- A case study of urban change in the UK, Newcastle Upon Tyne
- Regeneration of Newcastle's Quayside
- How can we make Urban areas sustainable

### Half term 5

- Human Geography fieldwork- principles of field work, using data
- Principles of field work, processing and describing data
- Principles of field work, reaching conclusions and evaluating data

### Half term 6

- A period of revision in preparation for final GCSE assessments