

Geography FAQs

1. How much of GCSE Geography is coursework?

There is no coursework at GCSE Geography. 100% of your grade will be gained through exams.

2. How many exams are there?

You will sit three exams at the end of Year 11.

3. What are the exams like?

Paper 1 is your Physical Geography exam. It is a 90 minute exam and will count for 35% of your GCSE Geography grade. Paper 2 is your Human Geography exam. It is also a 90 minute exam and will also count for 35% of your GCSE Geography grade. Paper 3 is a slightly shorter exam, with a mixture of Physical and Human Geography involved, including questions on fieldwork. It is a 75 minute exam and will count for 30% of your GCSE Geography grade.

4. Fieldwork? I thought you said there was no coursework.

There is no coursework, but you are required to carry out two pieces of fieldwork and you will be asked questions about these two local fieldtrips in the third exam.

5. Great, I love trips. Where are you taking us?

The two fieldtrips are currently to Harden Beck (a small stream that flows into the River Aire) in Cullingworth, and we also take you...wait for it...all the way to...Guiseley! Ok, control your excitement please; we go there to work. We usually run a trip in the summer term of Year 9 to the East Coast too, which is a compulsory trip for any Year 9 pupil who has chosen to study GCSE Geography. We may try to include this in your GCSE Geography years, but this isn't guaranteed.

6. Which teachers teach GCSE Geography?

There are five of us in the Geography department, who all teach GCSE classes. They are Mrs Stevens, Mrs Varley, Mr Trusselle, Mrs Russell and Mr McDonald.

7. Is there a lot of writing in GCSE Geography?

Geography is a written subject, so as well as discussion-based work, there will be written information to note down in lessons.

8. Anything else I should know about the subject?

It surprises some pupils to know that there are Maths skills in Geography too. Nothing too difficult, but as you go through the GCSE Geography course, you will need to master basic Maths skills such as mean / mode / median / range and simple calculations.

OK. Anything else?

Just that Geography is considered one of the more academic subjects. It is a broad subject that will compliment many of your core subjects such as English, Science and Maths, as well as the other Humanities subjects, History & RS. It is about the world that you live in, both the natural world, and how humans have to adapt to the world as we come

up against new opportunities and challenges. We try to use examples as recent as possible, and we're pretty confident that if you choose GCSE Geography, you won't regret it. It is a subject that helps you make sense of the world around you; both at a local level and in the wider world. We look forward to welcoming you on board.