



### Introduction:

Geography is the study of the physical features of the earth's surface and the variety of human responses to the challenges and opportunities which these present. At IGCSE, students follow the University of Cambridge International Examinations Board syllabus.

### Content:

The IGCSE is divided into three general themes, which are themselves divided into separate topics. Students cover themes 1 and 2 in Year 10. The first theme considers population and settlement studies, the second, the natural environment. In Year 11 they study theme 3 and they also prepare for Paper 2, Geographical Skills, and Paper 4, Alternative to Coursework.

The topics that form part of the studies for each theme are shown below:

- **Theme 1: Population and Settlement**

- Topic 1.1: Population Dynamics

- Topic 1.2: Migration

- Topic 1.3: Population Structure

- Topic 1.4: Population Density and Distribution

- Topic 1.5: Settlements and Service Provision

- Topic 1.6: Urban Settlements

- Topic 1.7: Urbanisation

- **Theme 2: The Natural Environment**

- Topic 2.1: Earthquakes and Volcanoes

- Topic 2.2: Rivers

- Topic 2.3: Coasts

- Topic 2.4: Weather

- Topic 2.5: Climate and Natural Vegetation

- **Theme 3: Economic development**

- Topic 3.1: Development

- Topic 3.2: Food production

- Topic 3.3: Industry

- Topic 3.4: Tourism

- Topic 3.5: Energy

- Topic 3.6: Water

- Topic 3.7: Environmental risks of economic development

- In addition to the theory work, studies of fieldwork and map skills are frequently integrated into the course.

**Skills:**

The aims of the course are for students to develop:

- A sense of place and an understanding of relative location on a local, regional and global scale;
- An awareness of the characteristics and distribution of a selection of contrasting physical and human environments;
- An understanding of some of the processes affecting the development of such environments;
- An understanding of the spatial effects of the ways in which people interact with each other and with their environments;
- An understanding of different communities and cultures throughout the world and an awareness of the contrasting opportunities and constraints presented by different environments.

**Homework:**

Pupils are set one homework per week.

**Assessment:**

Students are examined externally at the end of the two years via three separate examinations:

- Paper 1 examines their knowledge and understanding of the course
- Paper 2 examines the geographical skills they have acquired during the course
- Paper 4 focuses specifically on their enquiry skills

Throughout the course, students will also be assessed via homework, class work and end of topic tests.

**Digital usage in this subject:**

In Geography we use Google Classroom.

- We also encourage students to use certain websites for research tasks
- We use programmes for certain tasks – e.g. numbers, google sheets, google forms
- We use add ons for other tasks – e.g. jam board
- On occasion we use iPads/ iPhone cameras for filming
- We also use apps for some tasks e.g. weather apps, decibel meters, etc
- We may encourage students to watch documentaries online too
- We use exam board websites for certain resources – e.g. specification, advice

**Average time spent each homework:**

1 hour

**Typical tasks set:**

- Research key facts
- Make a presentation or infographic
- Complete mind map
- Make a Google Quiz

**Resources and Materials:**

- School Geography website – [www.schoolgeography.com](http://www.schoolgeography.com)
- Students are provided with a textbook: Complete Geography for Cambridge IGCSE.
- Students are also given revision booklets to complete to support their learning.

**Apps and websites habitually used:**

e.g. <https://www.gapminder.org>, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>, <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk>, <https://www.aemet.es/en/portada>, <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook>, [schoolgeography.com](http://schoolgeography.com), <https://geographyeducationonline.org>