

Faculty : Humanities

Subject : Geography – Year 10



St John Fisher
Catholic High School

Faculty Introduction:

There has never been a better or more important time to study Geography. With growing interest in issues such as climate change, immigration, economic development and environmental damage, Geography is one of the most relevant courses you could choose to study. Students follow the Edexcel A Geography GCSE, which is a modular course comprising three units of study delivered over two years. All three units are assessed by examinations which are taken at the end of Year 11.



Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

Component 1: The Physical Environment – Students will begin Year 10 by studying a unit on the Changing Landscapes of the UK which focuses on geology before examining river and coastal landforms and processes. Students then move on to study Weather Hazards and Climate Change before studying Ecosystems and Biodiversity.

Component 2: The Human Environment – Students will go on to study Global Development with an extended focus on the country of Tanzania and Changing Cities by focussing on Birmingham and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Assessment:

Informal assessment takes place throughout lessons and can be verbal or written. Students will also have both their class work and homework marked regularly by the teacher. More formal assessment takes place at the end of each sub-unit (every 4-5 weeks) when students are expected to revise for and then sit a practise assessment. These tests are completed under examination conditions and are also used as the working grades which are reported home on a termly basis. Formal external assessment of the Edexcel GCSE Geography course takes place at the end of Year 11.

Homework expectations/key deadlines:

Students should expect to receive 45 minutes of Geography homework per fortnight. Homework is an integral part of the students learning and will be directly related to classroom teaching.

Enrichment Activities:

Enrichment and extension activities include residential field work to North Wales to collect data for a river based study which is a requirement of the Geographical Investigations unit.