

Supporting Your Learner



Higher Geography

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Course Outline

In Higher Geography pupils study four main areas;

- Physical Environments
- Human Environments
- Global Issues
- Application of Skills



Pupils will also complete a research assignment which will account for 27% of their overall grade. Candidates will also undertake a final SQA exam which will be comprised of knowledge and source based questions on these three areas of study, along with an application of skills question, split over two examination papers. Higher candidates should aim to carry out regular independent research throughout the year – paying specific attention to world events and issues which are relevant to the course.



Exam Preparation

As the Higher Geography exam approaches, pupils should carry out as much timed practise of exam questions as possible, as well as increasing the volume of research they complete. The knowledge and skills questions both require strict time management and pupils should be encouraged to practise under timed conditions.

The Geography exam is broken up into four sections, Physical Environments and Human Environments sections are each 50 marks (100 in total for Paper 1 – 1 hour 50 minutes), Global Issues is out of 40 marks and the Application Skills question out of 20 marks (60 marks in total for Paper 2 – 1 hour 10 minutes). Pupils will have the opportunity to carry out exam practise in class also.

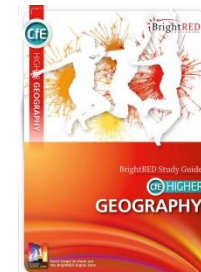
Useful Websites

Higher Geography candidates should use a wide range of websites to help them prepare and develop throughout the course. However, the most valuable way to enhance their knowledge is to regularly research the relevant issues that are in the news currently. Thus websites such as; The BBC, National Geographic, Guardian, Telegraph, Independent, Scotsman or any other quality newspaper will be of great use.

Useful Textbooks

The following websites sell revision and course notes as well as past papers. We have a sample copy in the department of most Geography textbooks and can offer individual advice on what the best option for each pupil may be.

- Hodder Education <https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/Geography>
- Leckie and Leckie <https://leckieandleckie.co.uk/category/Higher/Geography>
- Bright Red Publishing <https://www.brightredpublishing.co.uk/Shop/cfe-higher-geography>





Revision Classes

Currently Higher revision and help sessions are offered at lunchtime on a Wednesday. Pupils are also always welcome to seek out either teacher for advice at lunch or at the start or end of the day.

SQA Past Papers

The link below will allow you to access the most recent past examination papers as well as specimen papers produced by the SQA. There are also Marking Schemes on this page.

SQA Higher Geography Past Papers
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47922.html>

Understanding Standards

The link below to the SQA website will allow you to see where markers have awarded marks to exemplar papers and read the markers' comments on the candidate's response. It is especially helpful in identifying where marks are awarded for analysis and for knowledge.

Understanding Standards: Higher Geography
<https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/Geography/higher>

