

GEOGRAPHY: HIGHER

Why Geography?

This course builds on National 5 Geography and is designed to enable you to develop a detailed understanding of important aspects of the contemporary world. This involves studying the ways that people and the environment interact and examining the environmental issues that arise in a rapidly changing world. Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills including research, evaluation and presentation, IT, mapping and statistics.

Entry to the Course

All pupils must have gained a pass in National 4 Maths to be able to cope with the numeracy requirements of this course. We would also expect pupils to have gained at least an A-C pass in National 5 Geography. If pupils have not taken National 5 Geography we would then be expecting at least an A-B pass at National 5 in Maths or one of the Science subjects.

Course Outline

The course is divided between:

- Human (Population, Rural and Urban): this section of the course looks at how people use the land and deal with overpopulation and growing cities.
- Physical (Lithosphere Landscapes, Hydrosphere and Biosphere): in this part of the course you will learn processes which shape the land we live on, from giant ice sheets to raging rivers.
- Environmental Interactions (Rural Land Resources and Health): this section will compare rich countries to poorer nations and compare how both sides manage their own unique problems.

Assessment

The course is assessed using internal unit assessments, but the final award depends on the performance in the external exam. There is also an assignment, worth 33% of the overall grade. This will be completed in school but marked by the SQA.

Further advice and information is available from Mr MacKay, Mrs Ellis, Mrs Youens or Mr Youens.