

Supporting Your Learner

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Course Outline

In Higher Geography pupils study three main areas;

- *Physical Environments* – Atmosphere, Lithosphere (Glaciation and Coasts), Biosphere, Hydrosphere
- *Human Environments* – Urban, Rural and Population
- *Global Issues* – Development and Health, Global Climate Change

Pupils will also complete unit outcomes from fieldwork in Edinburgh. They will also research using secondary sources a geographical issue of their choice which will account for 33% of their overall grade. Candidates will also undertake a final SQA exam which will be comprised of knowledge and understanding and skills based questions on these three areas of study.

Pupils will also have to complete a range of unit assessments throughout the year to gain the outcomes that they need to have achieved before they can sit the examination.

Higher candidates should aim to carry out regular independent research throughout the year. They should also read articles, information and PowerPoints that are put onto google classroom to support them.

Exam Preparation

Throughout the year, pupils should be looking over their notes from class and creating mind maps and summary notes to help them. They should also focus on practising past paper questions and comparing their answer to the SQA marking scheme which can be found on the SQA past paper website. It is also important that pupil's practise describe and explain questions to identify different command words and what they mean. The exam is out of 60 marks and pupils have 2 hours and 15 minutes to complete it. They should therefore be aware that for each question they have just over 2 minutes per mark. It is therefore crucial that when pupils are practising past paper questions that they do so under timed conditions. Pupils can hand in questions to be marked at any point throughout the year.



Useful Websites

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47922.html> - SQA curriculum outline and assessment information

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zmhs34j> - Higher Bitesize revision page

Useful Textbooks

Revision Guides

Hodder and Gibson - Higher Geography Model Papers with answers

Hodder and Gibson - Higher How to Pass (SQA Endorsed)

Leckie and Leckie also do a range of support revision guides but are not SQA endorsed.



Revision Classes

Wednesday lunchtime 1:30-2:00 – Miss Stobie

Thursday lunchtime 1:30-2:00 – Miss Jeffrey

SQA Past Papers

Below is a link to the past papers and marking schemes for National 5 geography.

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm?subject=Geography&level=H>



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.

<http://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/Geography>

