



CLAIRES COURT
SIXTH FORM

Curriculum Statement

Year 12 - Geography
2025 – 2026

Your place to *aim high*

Geography

Introduction

- Exam board: OCR A Level GCE Geography (H481)
- Lessons: four 60 minute lessons per week
- Homework: four hours per week in the form of set tasks, extra reading and note taking
- Assessment: In accordance with GCE criteria
- Textbooks: OCR A level Geography (third edition) by Barker *et al.*
- Trips: A level Geography students must undertake four days of fieldwork in order to gain the skills required to complete their non-exam assessment (NEA) coursework. One day to the Highcliffe coast in the summer term, three day/two night residential to Juniper Hall FSC centre in the Autumn of year 13.

Areas of study

Autumn term

H481/01 topic 1.1.1 Option A: Coastal landscapes.

Candidates will develop an understanding of how coastal landscapes can be viewed as systems; how coastal landforms are developed; how coastal landforms evolve over time as climate changes and how human activity can cause change within coastal landscape systems.

H481/02 topic 2.1: Changing spaces; making places

Candidates will develop an understanding of how places are multi-faceted; how we understand place; how economic change can influence patterns of social inequality in a place; who the players are who influence economic change and how places are created through place making processes. This is supported by a day's field trip to Reading.

Spring term

H481/03 topic 3.2: Disease dilemmas

Candidates will develop an understanding of: the global patterns of diseases and factors determining them; the link between diseases and levels of economic development; how effectively communicable and non-communicable diseases are dealt with; how far diseases can be predicted and mitigated against and whether diseases can ever fully be eradicated.

H481/01 topic 1.2: Earth's life support systems

Candidates will study how water and carbon are cycled between the land, oceans and atmosphere in open and closed systems and how the processes within these cycles are interrelated. An understanding will be developed of the

threats to these systems through two main case studies: tropical rainforest and the Arctic tundra. Finally, how these cycles can be monitored and what national and global solutions there are to protect 'Earth's life support systems'.

Summer term

Completion of H481/03 topic 3.2: Disease dilemmas and H481/01 topic 1.2: Earth's life support systems.

End of year exams informing UCAS grades.

H481/04,05: Non-exam Assessment (NEA) - Investigative Geography

Candidates will spend some time in the second half of the term beginning to learn the skills involved in undertaking a geographical enquiry. In year 13 their NEA (Independent Investigation) will focus on an investigation topic of their choice. Initially we will investigate the local area and start to explore possible specification related topics.

Mastery

In Year 12, the core skills of interpreting geographical sources of information such as maps, photographs of features and places and other forms of data presentation will be required from the very start. This builds on the skills already expected at GCSE and underpins the study of geography at all levels. Worked examples, scaffolding of appropriate writing styles for specific parts of the assessment criteria and exemplar answers will all be used as part of our lessons. A-level standard questions will be integrated into class, group and individual activities from the start of the course, and revisited regularly throughout. Retrieval and recall of information plus the crucial application of theoretical and place-specific knowledge is a continuous process and forms part of almost all lessons.

Assessment

We follow the A level course, therefore all of the final examinations take place at the end of Year 13. However, we regularly assess the students using past paper questions and there will be two sets of mocks in Year 12 to assess the students' understanding of the topics covered, to set targets and help to inform predicted grades.

For further information please contact:

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