

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	GEOGRAPHY
<u>TITLE OF COURSE</u>	GEOGRAPHY
<u>LEVEL</u>	HIGHER
<u>RECOMMENDED ENTRY LEVELS</u>	A Pass in National 5 Geography, preferably at C or above.

As the following sections describe, there are 3 Units to be covered:-

UNIT 1: PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS:-

This section of work will study **the natural world** and the **forces** that shape it:-

- **Atmosphere** – how the atmosphere works and its role in controlling global climate.
- **Hydrosphere** - the hydrological cycle within a drainage basin and the study of it through hydrographs.
- **Lithosphere** - the physical processes which create and shape **Glaciated** and **Coastal** landscapes. Land use conflict and its management within these two areas.
- **Biosphere** – the properties and formation processes of podzol, brown earth and gley soils.

UNIT 2: HUMAN ENVIRONMENTS:-

This section of work studies a variety of **human activities** around the globe:-

- **Population Studies** – Changes in World population and consequences of change. This unit looks at the natural factors of birth and death rates as well as change through migration.
- **Rural Geography** – rural land use management focussing on land degradation in either the rainforest or the semi-arid lands.
- **Urban Geography** – urban change and its management using case studies from cities in both the developed and developing world.

UNIT 3: GLOBAL ISSUES:-

- **Global Issue 1: *River Basin Management*** – Using the **Colorado** River in SW USA as a case study the benefits and drawbacks of such schemes (socially, economically, environmentally and politically) are investigated.
- **Global Issue 2 : *Development and Health*** – Investigating the differing levels of development around the world then focusing on Health with a particular focus on water related disease such as **Malaria**.

GEOGRAPHICAL SKILLS:-

These will be present in all the topics studied in the Higher Geography course and an integral part of lesson work.

- **Mapping skills** such as interpretation, synthesis and analysis will include the use of OS maps in association with photographs, field sketches and cross sections/transects.
- **Research skills including fieldwork** will cover gathering, processing, interpreting and evaluating.
- **Use of numerical and graphical information** presented in a statistical, graphical or tabular way.

METHODOLOGY

A wide variety of methodologies will be used to cover both course content as well as a range of interpretation and analysis skills. This will include both teacher led and individualised learning as well as group and paired tasks. The use of IT will feature strongly both in the teaching and learning process.

ASSESSMENT

- **Internal:** - Pupils will sit 3 **internal** assessments during the course, one for each unit.
- **External:-**
Question Paper (Exam) in May/June. Duration 2 hrs and 15 minutes. (60 marks).
Assignment based on research and fieldwork. Written up under exam conditions (1hr and 30 Minutes) and sent to SQA for marking late March/early April. (30 marks).