

A Level Geography at Bullers Wood

Welcome to Geography at Bullers Wood. We believe you have made an excellent choice! What follows is some important information for you to consider prior to embarking upon your Geography A level journey. We hope that you find the subject and the EDEXCEL specification as enjoyable to learn as we do to teach.

Please take some time to have a look at this information again prior to your arrival in September.

What will I be learning about?

There are a total of 8 topics across the two year course.

Year 12	Dynamic Landscapes	Dynamic Places
	1. Tectonic processes and hazards 2. Landscape systems processes and change 2b. Coastal Landscapes	3. Globalisation 4. Shaping places 4a. Regenerating places
Year 13	Physical Systems and sustainability	Global development and connections
	5. The water cycle and water insecurity 6. The carbon cycle and energy insecurity	7. Superpowers 8. Global development and connections Either 8a. Health, rights and intervention OR 8b. Migration, identity and sovereignty

How will I be assessed?

This is a 2 year linear course so all of your exams are at the end of year 13.

Paper 1 – 30%	Paper 2 – 30%
1. Tectonic processes and hazards 2. Landscape systems processes and change 2b. Coastal Landscapes 5. The water cycle and water insecurity 6. The carbon cycle and energy insecurity	3. Globalisation 4. Shaping places 4a. Regenerating places 7. Superpowers 8. Global development and connections Either 8a. Health, rights and intervention OR 8b. Migration, identity and sovereignty
Paper 3 – 20%	Coursework – 20%
Synoptic investigation with resource booklet (not pre released)	Independent investigation 3000-4000 words. Based on fieldtrip in summer of year 12

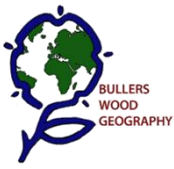
Geography Practicalities

Typically you will have 2 teachers: one teacher for 3 lessons, one teacher for 2 lessons per week. Most lessons will be taught in William Morris block or L3. Periods are 50 minutes long, some lessons will be double periods. In addition to class work, you are required to undertake 5 hours homework per week minimum for Geography outside of lessons (mix of guided and independent study).

What fieldwork is involved?

- 12th December 2016 – Lecture trip to London.
- Rebranding trip to Olympic site.
- 4 day trip to Swanage.
- Potential trip abroad (2018) tbc.

Other opportunities.... Lectures from RGS, Geography club – volunteers needed! In class support and mentors for year 11 students



Summer Preparation Tasks

In order to make a successful start to A level Geography it is important that you complete some work over the Summer as preparation. This work will be handed to your teacher in the first lesson back. It is compulsory. We also request that you undertake some reading from the list opposite.

1. General

Find one interesting Geography related story in the news. Produce an A4 factsheet about it and include a picture. Be prepared to speak about it in the first week of term.

2. Dynamic Places

Answer the following essay question:

Overall is globalisation positive or negative? Discuss.

You must:

- Cover both sides of the argument
- Consider different groups of people
- Use case study examples
- 2-3 sides of A4 handwritten

3. Dynamic Landscapes

Answer the following essay question:

Why are some places more at risk from disasters than others?

You must consider:

- The cause of a variety of hazards in multiple hazard zones e.g. tectonic and hydrometeorological
- Management of the hazards (Might consider level of development, population etc.)
- Use case study examples
- 2 sides of A4, handwritten

A Level Reading List

Non Fiction Magazines / Newspapers: WideWorld, Geography Review, National Geographic Magazine, The Economist, Independent, Guardian, Times.

Non Fiction Books: Gaia (various books by Lovelock, J), The Sceptical Environmentalist (Lomborg), Geldof in Africa (Geldof, B), Blood River: A Journey to Africa's Broken Heart (Butcher, T), Chasing the Devil (Butcher, T), The Weather Makers (Flannery, T), The Ukimwi Road (Murphy, D), The China Road (Gifford, R)

Fiction: Kite Runner (Hosseini, K), Slumdog Millionaire (Swarup, V)

Films: An Inconvenient Truth, Slumdog Millionaire, BBC Africa series, BBC Human Planet, BBC Frozen Planet, BBC Planet Earth, BBC Blue Planet

Twitter Feeds:

- @bullerswood_geo (Bullers Wood Geography department)
- @guardianeco (Guardian Environment)
- @NatGeo (National Geographic)
- @RGS_IBG (Royal Geographical Society)
- @Edexcel_Geog (Edexcel Geography)
- @Geographical_Mag (Geographical Magazine from the RGS)

We wish you a happy summer holiday and look forward to seeing you in September. Should you have any questions about Geography at Bullers Wood or about the holiday tasks, please do not hesitate to email me (Miss Kincaid) at:
lkincaid@bullerswood.bromley.sch.uk