

A Level Geography at Bullers Wood

Welcome to Geography at Bullers Wood. We believe you have made an excellent choice! Here 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 8a. Health, rights and intervention

How will I be assessed?

This is a 2 year linear course, 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(s)

Geography Practicalities

Typically you will have 2 teachers, 3 lesson with each per week. Most lessons will be taught in William Morris block, Asher-Smith Centre 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).

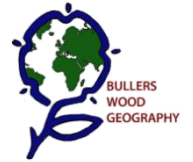
What fieldwork is involved?

- Potential lecture trip to London and other small outings.
- 4 day trip to Swanage – April.
- Local fieldwork

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

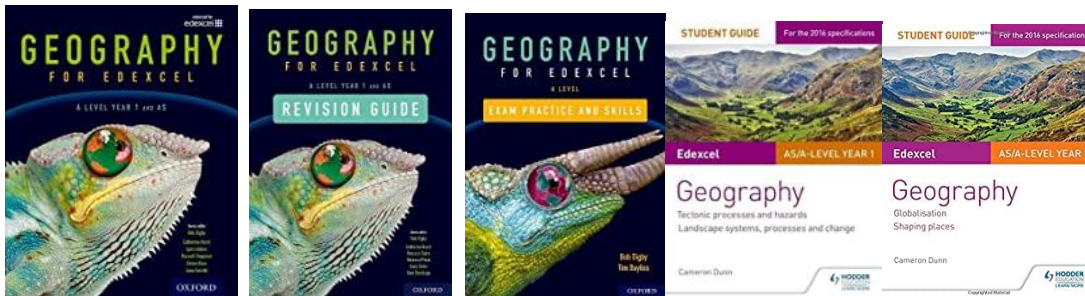
Folders + equipment

We ask that you have a geography ringbinder/leverarch folder that you bring to lessons. This should contain dividers for each of your topics. You should also bring your own lined paper. You are also likely to be asked for a donation towards photocopying costs in September.



Textbooks

We have a few textbooks that you can use in lessons but you will not be able to take these home. Some students choose to buy a revision guide or the online version of the textbooks. Below are a few images of the books that we recommend. They can all be purchased from Amazon or the Oxford university press website.



Summer Preparation Tasks

The best geographers are those who can work independently and have an interest in the world around them. On the pages that follow, there are a variety of geographical resources for you to investigate.

We want you to choose **at least 3 different** geographical resources to learn about e.g. book, documentary, podcast, news article. We would then like you to **write up what you have learnt**. This should be one page minimum per activity. E.g. You could read a book and write up a book review, write a fact file about a news story, complete a course.

When you start in September your teacher will ask you talk about what you have done and collect in your writeups as evidence of what you have completed. We are looking at your writing style, geographical skills (e.g. use of maps, graphs, statistics), use of your opinion (assessment) and ability to think geographically.

The final thing that we would like you to do is to **write 1 two page essay**. You have a choice of question from those below **A or B**:

A) Overall is globalisation positive or negative? Discuss.

You must consider:

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

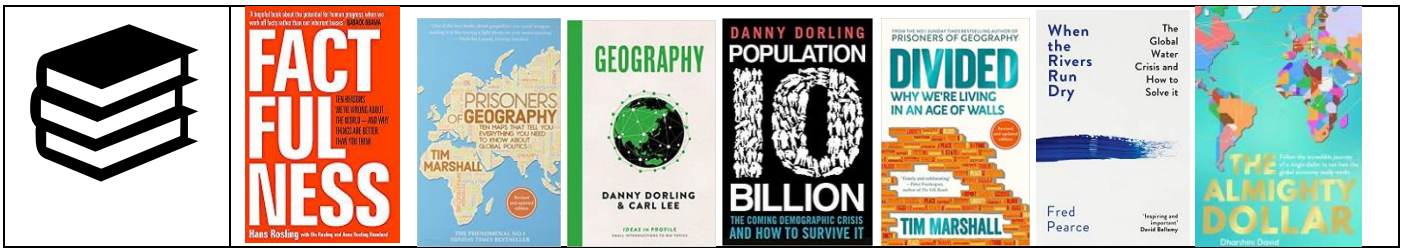
B) Why are some places more at risk from disasters than others?

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

Geographical Resources

Pick a **minimum of 3** to investigate and write up to hand to your teacher in September.




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).




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

	<p>Overheard – National Geographic Podcast Science Weekly – The Guardian Podcast Ask the geographer Podcasts (Royal Geographical society) The Development Podcast – World Bank The World Economic Forum Podcasts</p>	<p>Planet Money – The economy explained RGS Online Lectures BBC Costing the Earth BBC The Documentary Podcast Living Planet Podcast The Economist podcast</p>
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	<p>World economic forum videos Royal Geographical Society Youtube iPlayer Science and Nature Playlist iPlayer Climate Change Playlist BBC Earth</p>	<p>iPlayer Earth from Space iPlayer Stacey Dooley on BBC Three iPlayer Race Across the World iPlayer Africa with Ade Adepitan iPlayer Fashion Conscious</p>
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	<p>Sporcle – country and capital knowledge Geoguesser UNDRR Stop disaster emergency planning game The Ocean Game – can you save the town?</p>
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	<p>RGS Young Geographer of the Year - Launches April 2020 Future learn – Free university level online courses</p>
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@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 Miss Giacomazzi at:

rgiacopazzi@bwsgirls.org