



October 26<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Parents & Year 11 Geographers

I am writing with news about the 2022 Summer exams and the changes we are making to our teaching and learning schedule to maximise any student advantage that the changes offer.

The biggest changes is that a degree of optionality has been built into the exam structure (on Paper 1 only), please see below for how this impacts the 3 papers students sit.

Paper name	Usual content	2022 content
<b>Paper 1</b> <b>Our Natural World</b>	Changing climate (mandatory) Distinctive landscapes (mandatory) Sustaining ecosystems (mandatory) Global hazards (mandatory) Fieldwork (mandatory) Geographical skills (mandatory) - tested within topics & fieldwork sections	Changing climate (mandatory) Distinctive landscapes (mandatory) <i>Sustaining ecosystems (optional)</i> <i>Global hazards (optional)</i> <i>Resource reliance (optional)</i> Fieldwork (mandatory) – see notes below Geographical skills (mandatory) - tested within topics & fieldwork sections
<b>Paper 2</b> <b>People &amp; Society</b>	Resource reliance (mandatory) Urban futures (mandatory) Dynamic development (mandatory) UK in the 21st Century (mandatory) Fieldwork (mandatory) Geographical skills (mandatory) - tested within topics & fieldwork sections	Urban futures (mandatory) Dynamic development (mandatory) UK in the 21st Century (mandatory) Fieldwork (mandatory) – see notes below Geographical skills (mandatory) - tested within topics & fieldwork sections
<b>Paper 3</b> <b>Geographical exploration</b>	Geographical skills Decision making exercise * Indicates inclusion of synoptic assessment of all 8 topics.	Geographical skills Decision making exercise * Indicates inclusion of synoptic assessment of 6 mandatory topics.

For more detailed information, such as marks per paper see : [Changes for 2022, OCR B](#)

OCR are instructing teachers as follows : *You would therefore teach six out of the existing eight topics, picking one of the topics to deliver from the three optional (1 or 4 or 8) ones. You would therefore not teach the other two topics.*

We are in the very fortunate position of having already taught one of the 3 optional topics – Sustaining Ecosystems was delivered in Year 10, and we only have one of the mandatory topics left to study – students will start Dynamic Development in the October – December half term.

This means that once students have completed the Dynamic Development topic (before February half term) we can revisit Fieldwork, concentrating on 2022 context, and topics taught during lockdown (such as Changing Climate) or isolation and then dedicate time to revision and exam practise.

Other changes to the exam structure include a reduction of overall marks, to reflect the reduced content, and changes to the Fieldwork sections, as detailed below.

<b>Usual Fieldwork sections</b>	<b>2022 Fieldwork sections</b>
Paper 1 & Paper 2 both had fieldwork sections. Questions would mostly require answers to draw on students own fieldwork experiences and the context (type of fieldwork) was unknown.	Paper 1 & Paper 2 both have fieldwork sections. Questions will not require students to refer to their own fieldwork and context is pre released : Paper 1 – Rivers Paper 2 – Urban

I am confident that our students are in a good position and the alterations we are making to the teaching schedule, in light of the changes to the exam structure, will allow us to further strengthen knowledge and skills and tackle any areas of weakness that might exist due to any Covid related disruptions.

Whilst I'm writing I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that GCSE drop in sessions are running every Monday lunch, and to thank you for your continued support in what continue to be challenging circumstances.

Yours faithfully

*C Bramwell*

Ms C Bramwell  
(Head of Geography)