

GEOGRAPHY QUALIFICATIONS

Summary brochure

From patterns of the past to challenges of the future, geography is a truly fascinating subject. We've got it covered with qualifications at every level for 14 to 19 year olds, to help with progression to further study or a career.

WHAT'S IN THIS GUIDE?

- 3 | Pathways for geography**
- 4 | Entry Level Geography**
- 6 | GCSE (9–1) Geography A (Geographical Themes)**
- 7 | GCSE (9–1) Geography B (Enquiring Minds)**
- 8 | AS and A Level Geography**
- 9 | Supporting you in qualification delivery**

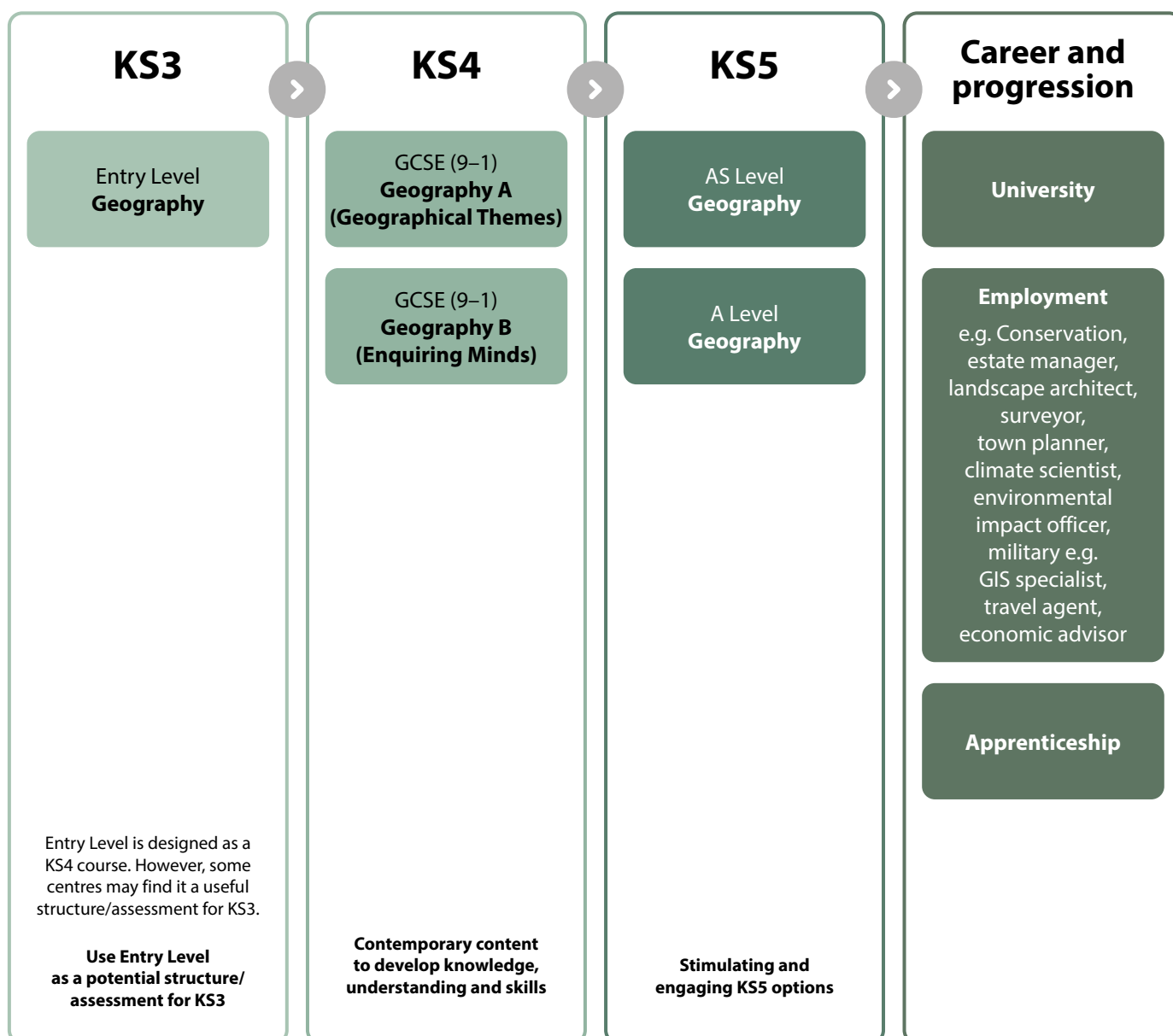
Helping you bring geography to life

Our specifications provide a dynamic, contemporary and exciting opportunity for students to engage with the world around them and develop a sense of wonder about it. They're designed to inspire a lifelong love of geography, drawing on issues that are relevant to student's learning within this subject.

All of our qualifications enable students to engage with and develop fieldwork and geographical skills. These skills are transferable to further study or the world of work.

The comprehensive qualification support package we provide for you; includes a range of free resources on the website, professional development opportunities and geography subject advisors who are available to support you.

PATHWAYS FOR GEOGRAPHY



ENTRY LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

R407

IDEAL FOR:

A variety of students, including those who may find it difficult to access GCSE (9–1) qualifications, students with learning difficulties or those on taster courses, and adult returners

PROGRESS TO:

Either directly to employment or to foundation level courses. The progress of some students during the course might be sufficient to allow their transfer to a Geography GCSE (9–1) course

FINAL AWARD:

Entry Level 3 (highest), Entry Level 2 or Entry Level 1

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

No

THE QUALIFICATION

Our Entry Level qualification in Geography provides exciting content studied in topics and brought to life by engaging enquiry questions. There are also opportunities to look at contemporary case studies across a range of scales and to develop geographical skills including fieldwork.

Students complete one personal project that can be based on any area of the specification and presented as, for example, a poster, PowerPoint presentation or written project to best suit them.

They also create a Fieldwork Notebook based on their own experiences and including key aspects of data collection and presentation. Again, it can be presented in a written format to suit individual students, for example, a notebook, poster or PowerPoint presentation.

The qualification is designed to be co-teachable with GCSE (9–1) Geography if you feel that's appropriate for your students. The co-teachable topics include; tropical rainforests, UK geography and flooding.

ASSESSMENT

Our Entry Level Certificate in Geography consists of three tasks that are assessed by your centre and externally moderated by OCR. There are many different ways that you can choose to teach this qualification and you can tailor this to your students learning needs. You can be flexible in your support and delivery of the assessments so that students can develop a range of skills including research and fieldwork skills.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/qualifications/entry-level/geography-r407-from-2016





GCSE (9–1) GEOGRAPHY A (GEOGRAPHICAL THEMES)

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

J383

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to go on to AS or A Levels, further education or a chosen career

PROGRESS TO:

AS or A Level Geography

FINAL AWARD:

9 (highest) to 1 (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

This engaging qualification is designed for students to develop an interest and deep understanding of places, the people who live there, and the environments in which they live. The themes throughout our contemporary specification explore the complexities of the planet and the interconnections that take place in the wider world. They also look at key ecosystems, people of the planet and environmental threats to the world.

It's built around three components:

- Living in the UK today
- The world around us
- Geographical skills

Students study the diverse and dynamic geography of the UK in depth. They'll gain an appreciation of the changes to the UK's geography and the processes that drive them. This includes the study of the natural landscapes that define the UK, its people and the environmental challenges facing it.

Students have opportunities to study in-depth, contemporary case studies, both local and global in nature. The engaging content studied as themes enables synoptic links to be developed.

The geographical knowledge and understanding gained from the content and concepts are underpinned by a range of geographical and fieldwork skills.

ASSESSMENT

This specification has a simple, clear assessment structure which consists of three written examinations, externally assessed by OCR, with each including a variety of question styles from short-answer through to extended response questions.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/geography-a-geographical-themes-j383-from-2016



GCSE (9–1) GEOGRAPHY B (GEOGRAPHY FOR ENQUIRING MINDS)

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

J384

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to go on to AS or A Levels, further education or a chosen career

PROGRESS TO:

AS or A Level Geography

FINAL AWARD:

9 (highest) to 1 (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

Featuring contemporary topics covering the breadth of this dynamic subject, our qualification is designed to excite and engage your students. It will help to create a lifelong love of geography by providing students with an interest in different places, people and environments, from a local to global scale.

The content encourages students to think like geographers through an enquiry approach using contemporary topics of study. They'll be encouraged to explore the interconnections of topics through synoptic assessment.

The specification will engage students through the exploration of a number of geographical topics encapsulating both the geography of the UK and the rest of the world. There are opportunities to study in-depth contemporary case studies, which can bring geography to life.

The geographical knowledge and understanding gained from the content and concepts are underpinned by a range of geographical and fieldwork skills.

It's built around three components:

- Our natural world
- People and society
- Geographical exploration

ASSESSMENT

The specification has a simple, clear assessment structure which consists of three written examinations, externally assessed by OCR, with each including a variety of question styles from short-answer through to extended response questions.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/geography-b-geography-for-enquiring-minds-j384-from-2016



AS AND A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

AS Level – H081

A Level – H481

IDEAL FOR:

Students who are passionate about understanding the world around them and in developing a range of skills

PROGRESS TO:

Study of geography or related courses or directly into apprenticeships or employment

FINAL AWARD:

A* (highest) to E (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

These specifications provide a dynamic, contemporary and exciting opportunity for your students to engage with the world around them. They've been designed to strengthen geographical and fieldwork skills gained at GCSE and delve more deeply into content. We want to help you inspire a love of geography, drawing on issues that are relevant to a student's own learning of the subject in a variety of contexts.

The AS Level specification includes content that looks at landscape and place, and optional topics in geographical debates. Fieldwork is examined within Component 01.

The A Level explores physical systems and human interactions, and has optional topics in geographical debates. There's also a non-examined assessment that provides a fantastic opportunity for students to investigate an area of the specification that interests them. The enquiry enables students to deepen their understanding and development of geographical and fieldwork skills.

In both, you can use case studies flexibly, and we've included contemporary examples.

ASSESSMENT

Both specifications have simple, clear assessment structures.

AS Level

Students must complete both components, which are each assessed by a written examination:

- Landscape and place (01)
- Geographical debates (02)*

A Level

Students must complete all components (01, 02, 03 and 04/05):

- Physical systems (01)
- Human interactions (02)
- Geographical debates (03)*
- Investigative geography (04/05)*

The first three are assessed by written examinations, externally assessed by OCR, while 04/05 is a non-examined assessment component.

*Indicates inclusion of synoptic assessment.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/geography-h081-h481-from-2016



SUPPORTING YOU IN QUALIFICATION DELIVERY

Our aim is to support you on your journey with us from initial enquiry right through to results. To help you get going, support you through delivery and allow you to develop professionally, we provide a massive range of support to help secure your students' futures.



SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

EXPERT SUBJECT ADVICE

Our subject advisors provide information and support to schools, including specification and assessment advice, updates on resource developments and a range of training opportunities. You can reach them through our customer support centre on **01223 553998** or by email at **geography@ocr.org.uk**

You can also find teacher support at **ocr.org.uk/geography**

TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

- **Teach Cambridge**
Teach Cambridge is our new personalised and secure website that provides teachers with a single point of access to all the support and resources you need to teach our qualifications.
- **Delivery guides**
A range of lesson ideas with associated activities that you can use with students to deliver the contents of the qualifications.
- **Geographical skills guides**
Teacher guides and student workbooks have been developed to support you in delivering these skills to your GCSE, AS and A Level students.
- **Fieldwork and non-exam assessment materials**
A range of resources have been written to support you in developing student's enquiry and fieldwork skills. Infographics have been written to help students working Independently on their non-exam assessments. We have created e-learning online courses to build your confidence in delivering, marking and administering internal assessment for our qualifications.
- **Skills guides**
A range of generic skills guides providing knowledge and tips covering topics such as communication, research skills and exam techniques.

PARTNER RESOURCES AND TEXTBOOKS

Our geography qualifications are supported by endorsed textbooks and resources published by leading publishers. You can find more details about our publisher partners and the resources they're providing at **ocr.org.uk/publishing-partners**

BLOGS

Read our geography blogs and gain interesting insights from our subject advisors and other leading figures from the world of geography education.

KEEP UP TO DATE

Sign up today at **ocr.org.uk/signup** for OCR updates including subject news, upcoming events and useful resources.



ASSESSMENT

ACTIVE RESULTS

This is a **free** online A Level, GCSE and Cambridge Nationals results analysis service to help you review the performance of individual students or your whole school. Active Results provides access to detailed results data, enabling more comprehensive analysis of results to give you a more accurate measure of the achievements of your centre and students. Find out more at ocr.org.uk/activeresults

ASSESSMENT MATERIALS

Sample question papers and sample candidate work.

EXAMBUILDER

Create bespoke assessments such as mock exams and topic tests with our **free** toolkit for GCSE and A Level Geography. This enables you to create tailored question papers giving your students the opportunity to practice and build confidence ahead of their exams. ocr.org.uk/exambuilder

PRACTICE PAPERS

Create mock exams and help students get a clearer picture of the qualification requirements. We put all our practice papers through exactly the same long and detailed processes as the live papers to ensure that they match the style and rigour of the live assessments.

CANDIDATE EXEMPLARS

A selection of candidate style answers with associated examiner commentary.

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING AND EVENTS

All our qualifications are supported with comprehensive training. Check out ocr.org.uk/professionaldevelopment to find out what's available for face-to-face or online training courses.



JOIN OUR *TEACHER* *PANEL*

SHARE
VALUABLE
FEEDBACK ON
EVERYTHING
FROM
CREATIVE
CONCEPTS
TO TEACHING
AND SUPPORT
RESOURCES.

ocr.org.uk/join

NEXT STEPS

STEP 1

ALREADY AN OCR CENTRE?

GREAT, YOU'RE ALL SET.

**IF NOT, CALL OUR
CUSTOMER DEVELOPMENT
TEAM ON 02476 856072**

STEP 2

**ASK YOUR EXAMS
OFFICER FOR ACCESS TO
TEACH CAMBRIDGE**

teachcambridge.org

STEP 3

**DOWNLOAD
THE SPECIFICATION
AND CHECK OUT OUR
RANGE OF RESOURCES**

STEP 4



**KEEP UP-TO-DATE
BY SIGNING UP FOR
EMAIL UPDATES**

STEP 5

**BOOK ONTO PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT EVENTS
AND TEACHER NETWORKS**

ocr.org.uk

For more information visit

-  ocr.org.uk/geography
-  facebook.com/ocrexams
-  twitter.com/ocr_geography
-  instagram.com/ocrexaminations
-  linkedin.com/company/ocr
-  youtube.com/ocrexams

Call our customer support centre on
01223 553998

Alternatively, you can email us on
geography@ocr.org.uk

Visit our online support centre at
support.ocr.org.uk



OCR is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

For staff training purposes and as part of our quality assurance programme your call may be recorded or monitored. ©OCR 2021 Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England. Registered office The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 8EA. Registered company number 3484466. OCR is an exempt charity.

OCR operates academic and vocational qualifications regulated by Ofqual, Qualifications Wales and CCEA as listed in their qualifications registers including A Levels, GCSEs, Cambridge Technicals and Cambridge Nationals.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment is committed to making our documents accessible in accordance with the WCAG 2.1 Standard. We're always looking to improve the accessibility of our documents. If you find any problems or you think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, please [contact us](#).