



'Geography makes a vital contribution to our knowledge of the rapidly changing environmental and social challenges facing us and how we should tackle them. A geography education has never been so relevant.' Royal Geographical Society.

At Thomas Mills High School and Sixth Form we teach GCSE OCR B Geography: Geography for enquiring minds. We alternate between physical and human geography topics and complete two local fieldtrips to Southwold and Ipswich Waterfront. This course allows our pupils to think critically, interpret and analyse data and make sense of the world around them both natural and man-made.

OCR state their aims and learning outcomes are:

- Develop and extend their knowledge of locations, places, environments and processes, and of different scales including global; and of social, political and cultural contexts (know geographical material).
- Gain understanding of the interactions between people and environments, change in places and processes over space and time, and the inter-relationship between geographical phenomena at different scales and in different contexts (think like a geographer).
- Develop and extend their competence in a range of skills including those used in fieldwork, in using maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and in researching secondary evidence, including digital sources; and develop their competence in applying sound enquiry and investigative approaches to questions and hypotheses (study like a geographer).
- Apply geographical knowledge, understanding, skills and approaches appropriately and creatively to real world contexts, including fieldwork, and to contemporary situations and issues; and develop well-evidenced arguments drawing on their geographical knowledge and understanding (applying geography).

Year 11			
Term	Topic	Knowledge and Skills	Useful Links
1	Changing Climate	Knowledge: Climate change is one of the most controversial global issues of the 21st century. In this topic learners will analyse patterns of climate change from the start of the Quaternary period to the present day, considering the reliability of a range of evidence for the changes. Learners will study the theories relating to natural	Specification: OCR GCSE (9–1) in Geography B (Geography for Enquiring Minds) (J384) Specification Seneca: Seneca - Learn 2x Faster



		climate change and consider the influence of humans on the greenhouse effect. Social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change at both local and global scales will be examined. Case studies: UK impacts of climate change. Worldwide impacts including Brazilian drought, Portuguese wildfires and sea level rise in Tuvalu. Skills: Cartographic and graphical analysis: extract, interpret, analyse and evaluate information. Select and construct appropriate graphs and charts, using appropriate scales and annotations to present information. Effectively present and communicate data through graphs and charts.	Climate change summary: What is climate change? - Internet Geography Natural causes of climate change: Natural causes of Quaternary climate change Human causes of climate change: Human causes of climate change Tuvalu case study: Tuvalu: Why Is the Small Island Nation Sinking? Earth.Org South America drought: Intense, Widespread Drought Grips South America
Assessments		Assessment 1: Climate change evidence and causes (20 marks). Homework task. Assessment 2: Climate Change end of topic test (37 marks). In class exam conditions.	
2	UK in the 21st Century	Knowledge: A diverse range of cultures, identities and economies make up the patchwork of the UK. This topic poses questions about the changing nature of people's lives and work in the UK in the 21st century. It asks learners to consider some of the drivers for this change. As new economic superpowers emerge, questions have been posed about the global significance of the UK. This will be investigated through a study of the UK's political and cultural connections with the rest of the world. Case studies:	Specification: OCR GCSE (9–1) in Geography B (Geography for Enquiring Minds) (J384) Specification Seneca: Seneca - Learn 2x Faster Ageing population: The ageing population of the UK - Population change and movement to the UK - Eduqas - GCSE Geography Revision - Eduqas - BBC Bitesize Population growth in London: The Growth of London - Internet Geography



		• UK population and London ethnic diversity • UK ageing population • UK's global role in Somalia • Impact of food, media and fashion • UK economic hubs-Cambridge Science Park Skills: data analysis, synoptic links, problem solving. Formulating enquiry and argument using a variety of sources	Cambridge Science Park Case Study: Cambridge Science Park - Building a better world Uks role in Somalia conflict: UK's Role in Conflict in Somalia (UK in the 21st Century Case Study) Flashcards Quizlet
Assessments		Assessment 1: Characteristics and population of UK (16 marks). Homework task. Assessment 2: UK's role in the world and UK media (20 marks). Short answer in class and essay plan. Essay for homework. Assessment 3: UK in the 21st Century end of topic test (33 marks). In class-exam conditions.	
3	Sustaining Ecosystems	Knowledge: Life on Earth is supported by global ecosystems and the link between human wellbeing and ecosystem wellbeing is vital. This topic explores the distribution and characteristics of the Earth's ecological wonders. Learners investigate the two contrasting ecosystems of tropical rainforests and polar environments, exploring physical cycles and processes that make these ecosystems distinctive, the threats posed to their existence and how humans are attempting to manage them for a more sustainable future.	Specification: OCR GCSE (9–1) in Geography B (Geography for Enquiring Minds) (J384) Specification Seneca: Seneca - Learn 2x Faster Sustaining ecosystems: Sustaining environments - GCSE Geography - BBC Bitesize What is an ecosystem?: What is an ecosystem? - Ecosystems - OCR - GCSE Geography Revision - OCR - BBC Bitesize



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CURRICULUM OVERVIEW: Geography

		Case studies: Samasati Nature Retreat, Costa Rica. Small scale management-whaling in the Arctic. Global actions in the Arctic-international protocols. Skills: Cartographic and graphical analysis Suggest improvements to, issues with or reasons for using maps , graphs, statistical techniques and visual sources, such as photographs and diagrams.	Samasati nature retreat: Costa Rica Retreat & Wellness Center Yoga & Meditation Arctic whaling: Arctic Whaling: A Historic Synopsis Poseidon Expeditions polar cruises
Assessment	Assessment 1: Global ecosystems (18 marks). Homework task. Assessment 2: Tropical rainforests human impacts. Short answer in class. Essay at home. Assessment 3: End of topic test (67 marks) In class-exam conditions.		