

IGCSE Geography

Edexcel 4GE1

CONTENT WARNING

This course is a GCSE and is therefore aimed at students of 14+. Students who are younger than this are more than welcome, but there will be reference to adult themes from time to time. This course contains references to sexual assault and rape, violence and warfare. I do not cover these things gratuitously but they are a core part of the course at times and feature in the textbook.

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Key Information

Course Price	£380 divided over 12 months at £30, +£20 deposit.
Course Length	1 Year of 48 Lessons
Lesson Length	1 hour 30 minutes
Lesson Times	Thursdays 12:50-2:20pm
Exam Board	Edexcel
Qualification	IGCSE
Course Code	4GE1
Exams	2 Papers; 1 of 1 hour 10 mins, 1 of 1hr 45mins.



Paper 1: Physical Geography

This paper covers 3 topics:

- **Rivers**

We examine the course of a river from its source to its mouth, learn about the hydrological cycle as well as the factors which influence flooding and how physical and human processes can change a river system.

- **Hazardous Environments**

We will study various hazards in detail, including tectonic hazards (volcanoes and earthquakes), climatic hazards (tropical storms, floods and droughts). We will develop understanding of the ways in which these hazards impact people and how we as humans can prepare for them and recover from them.

- **Rivers Fieldwork**

We will study the theory behind working in the field to measure various parts of a river, from velocity to depth. We will also examine secondary data to build up a picture of how rivers work.



Paper 2: Human Geography

This paper covers 4 topics:

- **Economic Activity & Energy**

We take a look at the ways in which people earn their money and the distinctions between the developed and developing world. We also study global energy usage as well as sustainable ways to meet energy demand.

- **Urban Environments**

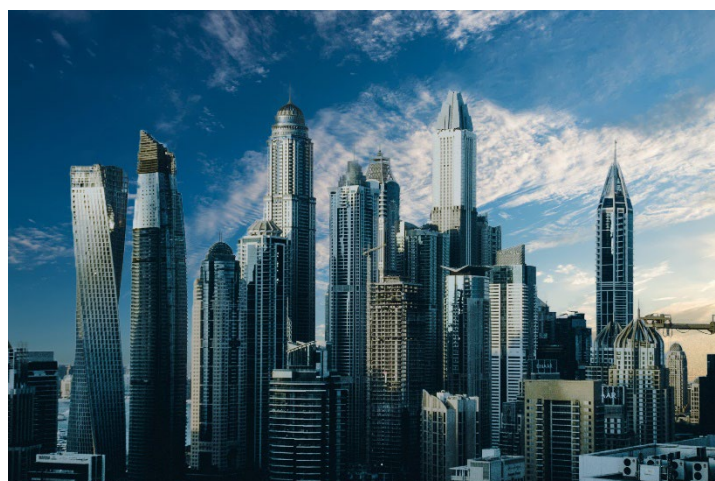
We explore urban environments, from small towns to megacities. We will see how cities have grown alongside population and how we can meet the challenges associated with such growth, from housing to crime and water supplies.

- **Fragile Environments & Climate Change**

This unit focuses on the way humans and nature can easily upset the balance of ecosystems and the atmosphere. We will study deforestation, desertification and climate change in detail.

- **Urban Fieldwork**

We will study the theory behind gathering primary data in urban environments from questionnaires and surveys of the environment and traffic. We will also use secondary data to look a little deeper.



Fieldwork

Carrying out fieldwork is not compulsory in this IGCSE. Students must have a good grasp of the theory however, and this will be developed in class.

There will be an opportunity to attend a day of fieldwork in Derby during April 2023. This is not compulsory but will be a lot of fun and definitely help students to understand the practices at a deeper level.

More information about the fieldwork will be provided early in 2026.

Examination Information

Paper 1: 1hr 10mins.

Paper 2: 1hr 45mins.

There will be a range of partial and full mock exams throughout the year. We take mock exams in lessons which will be recorded in case we need evidence of work due to any exam complications in 2026.

I mark all exams and provide feedback. We will study all the required exam skills in class and most homework will be based on exam questions.

Exams are readily available across the county at independent exam centres such as A3, Faregos and Tutors & Exams. I am partnered with Tutors & Exams but this does not mean you must take the exam with them.

The deadline for exam entries is usually around the end of January. I suggest that you sign up before then to avoid any delays, especially if you require access arrangements due to any special needs (extra time, use of a laptop etc.)

I **cannot** sign up to exam for you, but I can offer help and advice. It is also not me who can decide if a student requires extra time etc; that's something you must arrange with the exam centre you choose to sit the exam with.

This specific GCSE includes some essay writing. The student must be able to write a page of prose A4 confinity to achieve good grades. It also includes some basic mathematical skills such as finding averages, percentage difference and analysing graphs.

You can find examples of exam papers on the Edexcel website.

Assessment and Homework

In order to track student's progress, I ask them to complete regular homework and mock exam assessments.

Homework will be set every other week and will usually be based on exam questions so that they can be marked and graded.

All students must have access to a printer to print off homework and exam papers.

All students must have a way of sending me completed homework. You can either photograph this and send it or scan it in. (If you have completed work on the computer than this is a simple email).

It is much appreciated if work can be sent in .pdf form as this drastically cuts down the time it takes to mark.

All homework will be returned, marked, within two days of being sent unless we are taking a holiday. Most homework is sent back the next day.

Drop-In

If a student requires help with homework, or anything else, they can email me at any time or join my drop-in session every **Saturday from 11-12pm**.

This session is open to all students and their parents for free and you can ask me anything!

Reports

I send out written reports each November to give parents and students a good idea of how they are progressing. This report will show how regularly homework is completed, attendance and average grades so far.

How Lessons Work

All lessons are online and use the Zoom platform. Students will have a link that they can use for the entire year.

All lessons are recorded so should you miss a lesson, you can catch up. These are all stored on a central Google Drive. These are also great for revision!

Students are not required to use cameras or mics, although they are more than welcome to do so. The exception to this is during mock exams when all students are expected to have a camera pointing at their work, not faces and must have their mics muted.

Students will be able to use the Zoom chat function during lessons if they are uncomfortable with speaking.

Equipment you will need:

- Camera
- Mic
- Stable internet connection
- Notepads and pens for notetaking
- Working printer for printing off assessments etc.

Holidays and Taking Breaks

This is an intensive course and as such we do not stop for most holidays, including Bank Holidays.

We will have four weeks off throughout the year:

Summer	August 11 th – 15 th
Winter	December 22 nd – January 2 nd
Spring	April 6 th – 10 th

As all lessons are recorded, it's no problem at all to take additional weeks off. Please be prepared to catch up with missed lessons though by watching recordings and doing any homework set.

If you cannot make a mock exam for any reason, please send me an email. We can usually work out an alternative time to sit these exams.

Textbooks

There is one required textbook for this course:

Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Geography Student Book
(ISBN: 9780435184834)

