What will I study?

The Physical Environment

- Atmosphere: global atmosphere and climate, with detailed study of equatorial climate
- Hydrosphere: global water cycle, with detailed study of rivers and their features and river management/ flood assessment
- Lithosphere: selected British landscapes and their formation
- Biosphere: natural vegetation change, ecosystems and British soil types

The Human Environment which deals with aspects of Social, Urban and Economic Geography:

- Population Geography: population structure, migration and change
- Rural Geography: rural populations, agricultural systems and settlement patterns
- Urban Change and Management: Glasgow and Rio case studies

Global Issues a study of in-depth case studies from both the developed and developing world. Key topics are:

- River Basin Management: detailed case study of the Colorado or Nile water-management scheme
- Development and Health: Explaining why some countries are developed and others are developing.

What skills will I develop?

- Mapping Skills
- Research skills including fieldwork
- Use of numerical and graphical information

Possible Careers Land management & Conservation Geophysics & Environmental Sciences Travel & Civil Tourism Agriculture & Engineering Forestry

Need more info? -

Highers in a Nutshell

How will I be assessed?

You will sit an exam at the end of course and you will complete an assignment in class.

The exam is worth 160 marks and has two papers Paper one Physical Environments and Human Environments, Paper two Global Issues and Application of Geographical Skills.

The assignment is worth 30 marks. The topic is chosen by the pupil and completed in term time. Data gathering and research (eg river survey, soil sampling) is undertaken with some supervision. Marks are then scaled so the assignment is worth 27% of the overall mark and the exam is worth 73%.

What help is Higher Geography after school?

Higher Geography is recognised as a valuable qualification for both the Arts and Science faculties of Universities.

Pupils could progress to Higher History or Modern Studies in S6. Students may also progress to HNC/HND awards in college.