**Supporting students of A-level Geography at Toot Hill College**

Geography at Toot Hill College will excite students’ minds, challenge their perceptions and stimulate their investigative and analytical skills. Topics allow students to learn about the physical and human environments around them both locally and globally and explore interaction between these environments. The Geography department will support all students to achieve their full potential and teachers value the support of parents and carers as students’ progress towards the external examinations. Below is some important information and frequently asked questions designed to inform parents and carers. Please contact teaching staff or the Head of Department if you have further questions.

**Department staff:**

Head of Department – Mrs R Kenny - [rbloomer@toothillschool.co.uk](mailto:rbloomer@toothillschool.co.uk)

Lead teacher for KS5 Geography – Miss K Hale – [khale@toothillschool.co.uk](mailto:khale@toothillschool.co.uk)

Teacher of Geography / KS3 lead – Mr E Vernon – [evernon@toothillschool.co.uk](mailto:evernon@toothillschool.co.uk)

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| **Subject** | **Exam board** | **Course title and code** | **Structure** | **Key dates** | **Final exams** |
| Geography | AQA | 7037 A Level Geography | **Year 12**   1. Changing Urban environments (CUE) - (RKE) 2. Coasts (VFO/EVE) 3. NEA (RKE/VFO) 4. Hazards & Changing places.   **Year 13**:   1. Changing places (RKE) & Hazards (EVE/KHA) 2. Global governance (RKE) & Water and carbon cycles (KHA/EVE) | **October in class assessments** –  Paper 1 – Hazards  Paper 2 – Changing places  **November assessments** –  Paper 1- Hazards and Coasts  Paper 2 –Changing Places and CUE  **February assessments**  w/c 19th February – 1st March 2024  Full paper 1 and paper 2 mock exams | Paper 1 – 16th May (AM) (2 hours 30mins)  Paper 2 – 3rd June  (AM) (2 hours 30mins) |

**Frequently asked questions**

1. **Where can I find past papers and mark schemes?**

* You can find all past paper questions, mark schemes and examiners reports here: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037/assessment-resources>

1. **Does my student know where to access guidance when answering exam questions?**

* The AQA website also has examiner reports that students will find useful in understanding common misconceptions: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037/assessment-resources?f.Resource+type%7C6=Examiner+reports>
* In class, we complete regular assessments and exam questions. Students have guidance on how to answer these exam questions in their assessment books which they can use as part of their revision in the atrium.

1. **What happens if my student has gaps in their knowledge due to absence?**

* Students have checklists for each of their topics, and glossaries of key words for each topic.
* All resources are also uploaded on to the files section of teams regularly. Students can catch up with any work if they are absent using these resources.
* If students are unsure, they can also ask their classroom teacher.

1. **What resources are recommended to support my student?**

* Revision guides and power points on the file’s sections of teams
* For their NEA as it independent we recommend students buy the AQA A-Level Coursework Book - this book gives them the help they need to complete their own project - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/level-Geography-Coursework-Workbook-investigation/dp/1510468773>
* Exam practice questions should be completed at home regularly to develop key exam skills.

1. **What else can I do to support my student at home?**

* Parents/carers could direct students to use their revision lists, or download exam practice questions from the AQA website. You could also time students when writing longer answer questions (20 markers – 25 minutes).
* Parents/carers could also test their knowledge of key concepts by using flash cards.

1. **How can I help with revision?**

* Encourage your student to access the revision and home learning tasks – home learning tasks are on Teams.
* If you are able to take part in quizzing your student (if they have made flashcards or are using online quizzes), this will give them some variation to their revision and works well as a revision technique.
* Encouraging your student to focus on the areas of the courses that they feel less confident with will also be beneficial.

1. **What can I do if I need more support or my student is needing more support?**

* Please contact classroom teacher or head of faculty to arrange a meeting and devise a structured revision plan.