

GEOGRAPHY

Exam board	Cambridge IGCSE (CIE)
Assessment Method	72.5% examination (papers 1 & 2) 27.5% coursework
Exam Length	Paper 1 (Geographical Themes) = 1 hour 45 minutes Paper 2 (Geographical Skills) = 1 hour 30 minutes

Breakdown of units

Unit 1: Geographical Themes

Students will study three core themes, each encompassing a range of geographical topics and issues.

- Population and settlement – This unit investigates the factors that affect population growth and decline and the impacts of over and under population on countries at contrasting levels of development. It also looks at the ways in which population structures change over time and how these changes can influence the size, function and location of different settlement types, as well as the problems this can cause and the ways in which these issues can be sustainably managed.
- The natural environment – This unit looks at various aspects of physical geography including;
 - Plate tectonics
 - Marine and river processes
 - Weather and climate

For each of these topics students investigate the physical processes that shape the natural environment as well as the ways in which human actions and the natural environment interact and their associated impacts.

- Economic development and the use of resources – This unit looks at various aspects of human geography including;
 - Agricultural systems
 - Industry and technology
 - Leisure and tourism
 - Energy and water resources
 - Resource conservation & management

For each of these topics students will investigate the ways in which economic development is affected by both human and natural processes, and the impacts these interactions have at a range of scales. They also consider the various ways in which these resources and activities can be sustainably managed.

Unit 2: Geographical Skills

This unit develops students' core geographical skills including map reading, interpreting and creating basic and complex graphs, analysis of geographical data and responding to written and visual sources. This unit will not require specific information of place as specific resources will be provided in the exam where one question is based on a 1:25 000 or 1:50 000 topographical map of a tropical area such as Zimbabwe, the Caribbean or Mauritius.

Coursework

This unit allows students to investigate a geographical issue as set by the exam board and selected by their subject tutor. Students attend a compulsory field trip to carry out fieldwork and data collection and use their findings to produce a 2000 word report, which is worth 27.5% of their overall iGCSE grade. This coursework will be assessed on the following criteria:

