

Welcome to A-level Geography 2026

We follow the AQA specification, which can be found [here](#) and study the following topics:

- Urban (Y12)
- Changing Places (Y12)
- Globalisation (Y13)
- Coasts (Y12)
- Water and Carbon (Y12)
- Natural Hazards (Y13)

These are divided into two papers, which are each two and a half hour examinations and make up 80% of your final grades. The remaining 20% comes from your coursework enquiry which you will begin following our field course to Dorset from March 1st to 5th 2027. Please add this important date to your calendars now!

You will benefit from access to the main textbook – **Hodder AQA A Level Geography**, by Skinner et al. A second hand copy is fine and you could share with a friend as it is not something you will use regularly. Please see this link [Textbook](#)

Bridging Work

Total time: approx. 3-4 hours

This work is designed to introduce you to some key elements from the first human geography unit we will study in Year 12 and help you begin thinking like an A level Geographer. It is not formally assessed, but we will refer to it in lessons in September.

Task 1: Follow Urban Geography in the News (spend a few minutes each week on this)

Track stories on topics such as:

- Housing affordability.
- Urban regeneration.
- Migration.
- Transport developments.
- Sustainable cities.

Good sources:

- [The Guardian Cities Archive](#)
- [BBC News UK](#)

Create an electronic folder of interesting examples.

Task 2: UK Regeneration Research (approx 3 hours)

Research an inner city part of a UK city that has been regenerated since 1979 and subsequently experienced **Urban Resurgence** (people moving back there). You need to include the following information:

- Location within the city
- Why was the regeneration needed? – Brief Description and Explanation with supporting data (consider use of photos)
- What type of project was it? UDC? City Challenge? New Deal? Something else – Description
- What stakeholders (key groups of people) were involved in the project? – Description
- What was actually done to regenerate the area? - Description and Explanation with supporting data (some annotated photos would help here)
- **Evaluate** the success of the scheme – To what extent has it been a success...Make a Judgement...
Have people moved back in? (Can you find any supporting data?)
Has the local economy grown? (Can you find any supporting data?)
Has the reputation of the area improved?
If the regeneration was attempting to rebrand the area has this worked?
In many respects this is the most important section as at A level you are not just called to learn facts but to evaluate and make judgements!

Aim for a factsheet with approximately two pages of text, although diagrams, photos etc might well make it longer than this.

For support getting started see: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-44482291>

Extension Work: Optional if you are particularly enthusiastic

Read at least one of the following books and summarise the key things that you learned from it: any of these will help broaden and deepen your understanding of the world and help prepare you effectively for A level Geography.

- Why Study Geography, Alan Parkinson
- Factfulness, Hans Rosling
- Prisoners of Geography, Tim Marshall
- Worth Dying for – The Power and Politics of flags, Tim Marshall
- Divided Why We're Living in an Age of Walls, Tim Marshall
- Invisible Women, Caroline Criado Perez
- The Almighty Dollar, Dharshani David
- Why Geography Matters More Than Ever, Harm de Blij
- How to give up Plastic, Will McCallum
- You are Here, Nicholas Crane