

Dear Parents / Carers of **Y11 Geographers**

After a detailed analysis of last year's exam papers and results we have decided to switch from OCR Exam board to Edexcel A. There are several reasons for this switch:

- The wording of the questions are more clearly written so allows pupils access to the questions
- There is more opportunity for pupils to show off their knowledge as there is a wider range of short answer questions
- There is more use of resources in the exam paper to help prompt pupils
- There is less emphasis on learning huge case studies
- The geographical investigation is based on one of 4 themes rather than anything from across the 2 years.

The Edexcel A course is as follows:

Exam	Duration	Marks available	% of GCSE	Topics/Content
Paper 1: The Physical Environment	1 hr 30 mins	94	37.5%	1. The changing landscapes of the UK - coastal landscapes - river landscapes 2. Weather hazards and climate change 3. Ecosystems, biodiversity and management
Paper 2: The Human Environment	1 hr 30 mins	94	37.5%	4. Changing cities 5. Global development 6. Resource management
Paper 3: Geographical Investigations: Fieldwork and UK Challenges	1 hr 30 mins	64	25%	7. Geographical investigations – fieldwork - physical environments (rivers) - human environments (urban) 8. Geographical investigation – UK challenges

The content of the exam does not differ much from that which we have done so far so the **vast majority** of work from Y10 still is applicable to this exam.

We will be using homework this year to ensure that pupils are fully prepared for the units already taught to them and those we have yet to teach. Pupils will be set a mixture of short answer revision questions as well as longer questions and be given knowledge organisers to help fortnightly. We are also running an after





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school session on a Monday for all pupils who want to come and do their homework in E11 with some help and support. Every homework not completed will result in a lunchtime detention.

If you have any questions about this change in specification, please contact me on fprice@thedeanacademy.org

Yours sincerely

Fiona Price
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