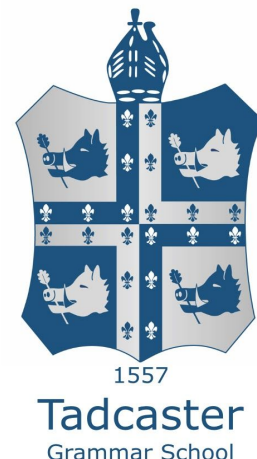


Be Your Best Self



JWK

September 2020

Dear Parents

Geography A-Level

With such an important year ahead, and some staffing changes in the Geography Department, I wanted to ensure that you have all the relevant details should you need to discuss your son/ daughter's progress with a member of the Geography Department. The list below shows the class teacher and their contact information.

13BGg1 - Mrs Walker (j.walker@tgs.starmat.uk) and Mrs Ireland (l.ireland@tgs.starmat.uk)

13CGg1 - Mrs Walker (j.walker@tgs.starmat.uk) and Mr Kenyon (o.kenyon@tgs.starmat.uk)

We are continuing to study the AQA Specification. We will have a class set of books to be used within lesson time, however we know that students like to highlight and annotate their own copies so the book we will be using is below:

AQA A-Level Geography for A-Level and AS Fourth Edition - Skinner, Abbiss, Banks, Fyfe and Whittaker.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-level-Geography-Fourth-Whittaker/dp/1471858693>

A revision guide that students in previous years have also found useful is also detailed below:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Level-Geography-Complete-Revision/dp/1782946489/ref=pd_lpo_sbs_14_img_0/259-1141200-9717166?_encoding=UTF8&pvc=1&refRID=A5TZDWX9XHX2KH0ST72B

Assessing progress

Due to the disruption caused by Covid-19 we need to fully understand where each student is in terms of their knowledge and understanding, therefore we are going to set all students an assessment which will be sat in lesson time to test the topics they covered in Year 12. We are planning to run two assessments for each class. The details of which are shown below:

13B will have their Urban and Changing Places assessment on Monday 21st September and their Natural Hazards and Coasts assessment on Thursday 24th September.

13C will have their Natural Hazards and Coasts assessment on Wednesday 16th September and their Urban and Changing Places assessment on Friday 18th September.

All students have been made aware of these dates during the summer holiday. The marks for this will be shared with students and parents and a plan put in place for whole classes as well as individuals to fill any gaps in students' knowledge.



Headteacher: Mr A Parkinson B.Sc (Hons) M.Ed M.Sc
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NEA

All Geography A level students have to write a 3-4,000 word non-examined assessment (NEA) which is based on an individually designed piece of fieldwork. As you are aware we had to cancel the Castle Head field visit on 8th-10th July due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and therefore we have been working hard to create an alternative provision for our students.

In September Mrs Ireland will work with 13B and myself with 13C to help students choose a suitable research question and location for their fieldwork.

Students will need to select a familiar urban area as their fieldwork location. We will ask students to select from the following: York city centre; Leeds city centre/ waterfront area; Tadcaster or another urban area that is close geographically or more convenient for them to travel to. We will require that students complete their fieldwork under the supervision of a parent or carer and also submit to us a risk assessment of the sites that they plan to visit. If you believe that there may be a problem choosing and travelling to a suitable urban area or supervising your son/ daughter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Can we please ask that you acknowledge the request to supervise your child by emailing myself in the first two weeks back in September?

A draft of all NEAs is expected by the Christmas holidays and each NEA should be completed entirely by February half term. We appreciate your support in helping students meet these deadlines and the completion of such an important part of the A level Geography course.

Guided Learning

In Year 13 students will have fortnightly guided learning sessions in Geography. These sessions will enable students to practise writing in timed conditions and deepen their understanding of Year 12 topics. It is important that students prepare thoroughly for these guided learning sessions and as such will be told in advance in their Geography lessons what revision they should be conducting. Students will also be expected to revisit the exam answers they have written in the guided learning sessions and improve them addressing areas of weakness identified in lessons.

Independent Study

Students should continue to use their independent study time effectively, keeping up to date with worldwide issues that link directly to the key topics we are covering, reading around topic areas using resources such as Geofiles and revisiting Y12 topics where they should create revision material as well as write exam answers. There are now a growing collection of practice exam questions available at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037/assessment-resources>

If you have any questions regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Walker

KS5 Coordinator