

“Civilisation exists by geological consent, subject to change without notice” - Will Durant.

Geology provides an essential contribution to our understanding of the Earth. The subject centres on the study of minerals and rocks and the processes of their formation and distribution. Uniquely, it introduces the concept of geological time which, with the study of fossils and the rock record, enables a reconstruction of Earth history. It considers the nature of geological hazards and how they can be managed in people's daily lives. It links the processes we see around us on Earth with the information we are continually discovering about our neighbouring planets in the Solar System. Geology affects the environment we live in, providing the resources for the building and manufacturing industries and the energy to fuel them. It is perhaps the most interdisciplinary and integrated of the sciences, providing a broad, relevant education for today.

Laboratory work and particularly fieldwork encourage accurate observation and analysis. These studies also develop a very wide range of skills that are transferable to many learning situations across a broad range of subjects.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Geological Principles **(50% of qualification – 1 hour 15 minutes)**

An on-screen assessment consisting of data and stimulus response questions.

Component 2: Investigative Geology **(50% of qualification – 1 hour 30 minutes)**

A written assessment consisting of data and stimulus response questions.

Further Information

The course is cross-curricular with links to other Science GCSEs as well as the Geography GCSE specification. Work will be mainly teacher-led but will also include elements of independent research and preparation, discussion, group work and collaborative tasks. There will be two compulsory day trips to meet the fieldwork requirements of the course which will incur a cost of approximately £30 per trip. It is hoped that an optional residential fieldtrip (currently to Iceland) will also be offered. GCSE Geology can be studied alongside GCSE Geography.

Exam Board: WJEC Eduqas GCSE Geology C480QS

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geology/gcse/>