

## Geography

Obviously, you would have been spending the Summer holidays writing up some of your NEA having done the fieldwork in London.

At the moment we are unclear about what this will look like until we get further guidance from the Government and AQA. Remember, we had planned to take you to London to do some work on the Changing Places topic.

At the moment we must assume that you will still need to do this when we come back however, we need to change this to make it more local, we are currently thinking Watford or Great Missenden.

Therefore over the Summer you need to be thinking about how you can collect data, what sort of data you can collect and make some plans; assuming we can still go ahead with this.

Both Mr Sweet and Mr Dobbs will be available to answer any questions, so please ask. We want you to come back in September having thought and planned some of this, so we aren't having to start this from scratch.

Below is some detail for you to help get you started.

- What hypothesis could you have?
- What sub-hypothesis could you use?
- What sort of data could you collect?
- How would you collect it?
- Where would you collect it?
- What secondary data could you get?

Students need to complete an individual investigation which must include the data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

### **How it is assessed:**

- 3,000–4,000 words
- 60 marks
- 20% of A Level
- marked by teachers
- moderated by AQA.

What is important is that you work on your own on contextualising, analysing and reporting of your work to produce an independent investigation with an individual title that demonstrates required fieldwork knowledge, skills and understanding.

**The independent investigation must:**

- be based on a research question or issue defined and developed by the student individually to address aims, questions and/or hypotheses relating to any part of the specification content
- involve research of relevant literature sources and an understanding of the theoretical or comparative context for a research question/hypothesis
- incorporate the observation and recording of field data and/or evidence from field investigations that is of good quality and relevant to the topic under investigation
- involve justification of the practical approaches adopted in the field including frequency/timing of observation, sampling and data collection approaches
- draw on the student's own research, including their own field data and/or secondary data, and their experience of field methodologies of the investigation of core human and physical processes
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the techniques appropriate for analysing field data and information and for representing results, and show ability to select suitable quantitative or qualitative approaches and to apply them
- demonstrate the ability to interrogate and critically examine field data in order to comment on its accuracy and/or the extent to which it is representative, and use the experience to extend geographical understanding
- require the student to independently contextualise, analyse and summarise findings and data, and to draw conclusions, by applying existing knowledge, theory and concepts to order and understand field observations and identify their relation to the wider context
- involve the writing up of field results clearly, logically and coherently using a range of presentation methods and extended writing
- demonstrate the ability to answer a specific geographical question drawing effectively on evidence and theory to make a well-argued case
- require evaluation and reflection on the investigation including showing an understanding of the ethical dimensions of field research.