



## West Park School

### Geography

## GCSE Examination Summer 2026

In readiness for your summer examinations in Geography you must **LEARN** and **REVISE** the following content and skills:

#### **Component 1: Investigating Geographical Issues**

**(1 hour 45 minutes)**

You will need to revise all the content and skills from Theme 1 (green folder), Theme 2 (blue folder) and Theme 3 (black folder). As with your CATs you will answer a series of short answer questions (see back for skills and tips) and three extended questions (8 marks + 4 SPaG), one at the end of each theme. Within these enquiry questions you will be expected to test a statement or hypothesis by:

- ✓ interpreting and analysing information about a new place.
- ✓ using the information about the new place with your knowledge of the named place(s) that you have studied as part of the issue (see further tips on the reverse).
- ✓ use the evidence and sources given on the question.

#### **Component 2: Problem Solving Geography**

**(1 hour 30 minutes)**

This paper could be on any topic that you have covered in Geography (see reverse). It is split into three parts:

- **Part A** – Introduction to the place and issue.
- **Part B** – Details on the options.
- **Part C** – Report outlining and justifying your solution(s) to the problem using the options from Part B.

To help prepare for this, revise the technique from any of the decision making CATs so you can structure your report appropriately.

#### **Component 3: Applied Fieldwork Enquiry**

**(1 hour 30 minutes)**

You will need to revise the fieldwork techniques and processes that you have learnt during the Dovedale fieldtrip and follow-up lessons.

- **Part A** - Methodology: *Qualitative surveys* – sustainable management of tourism at Dovedale.
- **Part B** - Concept: *Cycles and flow* – river flows at Dovedale.
- **Part C** - also on the concept of *cycles and flows* in a wider UK enquiry (mini-problem solving exercise).

## Skills and Tips for success in Geography

- ✓ Read all instructions on the front of the examination paper carefully. Answer both questions on the paper.
- ✓ Even if you are not sure of the answer write an answer for all questions.
- ✓ Check the marks available for each question and allocate your time appropriately i.e. you should work on the basis of approximately “a mark/minute”.
- ✓ Read all questions carefully to ensure you understand what you are being asked. Make sure your response answers the question as fully as possible.
- ✓ Make sure you write quickly, but clearly, writing that is not legible (readable) will score no marks.
  
- ✓ **Describe** – if asked to describe something, say what it is or what it is like.
- ✓ **Explain** – if asked to explain something, say WHY it is like it is – use the ‘So What?’ method.
- ✓ If asked to describe a location, always give a distance from another location on the map provided, and a direction using compass points e.g. N, S, E, W.
- ✓ Refer to **named places** you have studied whenever possible.
- ✓ Even if not asked, always use **figures** in your answer if you can, particularly if being asked to describe trends in graphs or tables including figures. Be precise with figures.
- ✓ Key skills should include:
  - annotation of images
  - map skills
  - collection of geographical data
  - numerical skills e.g. mean, mode, median, interquartile range, frequency and percentage calculations.
  
- ✓ Make sure you refer to the correct maps/diagrams/images that are referred to in the question.
- ✓ Use the evidence provided (photographs, maps, tables, diagrams, opinions, news articles) as it is there to be used and to help you and remember to ask and answer:
  1. What does it show?
  2. What can I infer from the evidence? (what does it suggest?)
  3. What else do I know about similar issues/places?
  4. Is it typical/atypical (not typical)? How does it compare to places I’ve studied?
  5. What doesn’t it show you that you might also want/need to know?
  
- ✓ In Part C of Components 2 and 3, you will be asked to make a decision/solve a problem about a place and how it should be managed/developed for the future. Ensure that in the final report you write you **explain fully** why you chose your option (there is no correct answer!). On Paper 2, you will be asked to say how the choices you make will work well together. **Make sure you do this, the exam board have said this must be done!**
- ✓ Try to say how your choice is good for the short and long term, why it is more sustainable (socially, economically and environmentally, see diagram right) than the other options (compare them directly and explain why your choice is more sustainable than the ones you rejected), how it would affect different specific groups or people and how it can be sustainable for the future.

