

23 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 Geography students,

I hope this letter finds you well, enjoying a positive start to the academic year. As the Head of Geography, my aim is to work with you to provide the best possible educational programme for the students taking Geography for GCSE, supporting this dedicated cohort through what, I trust, will be another successful GCSE period. The geography team are so impressed by the hard work and focus that the students are already demonstrating.

Outside of the classroom, the community surrounding the students is an important support network for the remainder of their GCSE learning. In this coming academic year, I will look to you for support and consultation to ensure success for our young people: students must be learners outside the classroom, especially as we reach exam periods where revision is of paramount importance.

The following information has already been communicated to your children, however, to make the most of revision outside the classroom, and to encourage open support and dialect at home, please find below a list of topics that will be coming up in their GCSE Year 11 Geography mock paper. This will take place in the afternoon of Tuesday, 14 October (2025).

#### Topics

- Natural Hazards (earthquakes, volcanoes, tropical storms and climate change)
- Urban Challenges (Rio de Janeiro and London)
- UK Physical Landscapes (coasts and rivers)
- Resources: food

#### Case studies

- LIC earthquake Haiti 2010
- HIC earthquake Christchurch, New Zealand 2011
- Tropical storm Typhoon Haiyan, Philippines 2013
- Extreme weather UK heatwave 2022
- NEE city, Rio de Janeiro
- HIC city, London
- Swanage coastal management
- Banbury river management

Please find the AQA exam board specifications for each topic additionally attached.

Beyond lessons, students have been provided with revision textbooks and resources for the subject, as well as weekly Seneca homework tasks. They are also encouraged to start taking their classroom workbooks home to revise from.

Whilst the time period between now and their final GCSE exams in Year 11 will present challenges, I have no doubt that these will be overcome with determination, hard work and enthusiasm.

If you have any questions, or if there is anything I can assist you with, do not hesitate to contact me. My email address is [SAlford@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk](mailto:SAlford@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Miss Alford

**Head of Geography, 12A Coach and Oxbridge Mentor**