

Year 10		Curriculum Checkpoints: What do students know and what can they do?			
Geography	Key principles and content	Developing	Securing	Flourishing	Excelling
Knowledge (AO1)	The key knowledge and understanding required includes: Physical geography: an understanding of the tectonic, geomorphological, biological and meteorological processes and features in different environments, and the need for management strategies governed by sustainability and consideration of the direct and indirect effects of human interaction with the Earth and the atmosphere. Human geography: understanding of the factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments; the dynamic nature of these environments that change over time and place; the need for sustainable management; and the areas of current and future challenge and opportunity for these environments. Evaluation of a major issue: to develop a critical perspective on the issue(s) studied, consider the points of view of the stakeholders involved, make an appraisal of the advantages and disadvantages, and evaluate the alternatives. Finally to consider physical and human interrelationships and to make reasoned justifications for proposed solutions in terms of their likely impact on both people and the physical environment.	Demonstrates limited knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales	Demonstrates some knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales	Demonstrates thorough knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales	Demonstrates detailed knowledge of locations, places, processes, environments and different scales
Understanding (AO2)		Shows basic geographical understanding of concepts and how they are used in relation to places, environments and processes; the interrelationships between places, environments and processes	Shows clear geographical understanding of concepts and how they are used in relation to places, environments and processes; the interrelationships between places, environments and processes	Shows thorough geographical understanding of concepts and how they are used in relation to places, environments and processes; the interrelationships between places, environments and processes	Shows detailed geographical understanding of concepts and how they are used in relation to places, environments and processes; the interrelationships between places, environments and processes
Analysing, judging, evaluating (AO3)		Demonstrates limited application of knowledge and understanding in analysing and evaluating to make judgements	Demonstrates reasonable application of knowledge and understanding in analysing and evaluating to make judgements	Demonstrates thorough application of knowledge and understanding in analysing and evaluating to make judgements	Demonstrates detailed application of knowledge and understanding in analysing and evaluating to make judgements
Investigating (AO4)		Communicates ideas using basic language when selecting , adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings	Communicates ideas effectively with some use of geographical language when selecting , adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings	Communicates ideas with clarity and good use of geographical language when selecting , adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings	Communicates ideas with depth and maturity and good use of geographical language when selecting , adapt and use a variety of skills and techniques to investigate questions and issues and communicate findings

Unit	Progress Category	Criteria
The Challenge of Natural Hazards	Developing	Identifies basic types of hazards; limited understanding of causes and effects.
	Securing	Describes hazard types and impacts with some understanding of management strategies.
	Flourishing	Explains hazard causes, effects, and responses using case study examples.
	Excelling	Evaluates hazard management strategies with detailed case study knowledge and data.
The Living World	Developing	Knows basic facts about ecosystems; limited understanding of tropical rainforests/deserts.
	Securing	Describes features and adaptations with some use of terminology and examples.
	Flourishing	Explains interdependence, adaptations, and impacts of change in ecosystems.
	Excelling	Evaluates management strategies for ecosystems using detailed case studies.
Physical Landscapes in the UK	Developing	Identifies basic landforms and processes with limited accuracy.
	Securing	Describes formation of landforms and begins to explain processes involved.
	Flourishing	Explains landform development with good understanding of processes and examples.
	Excelling	Evaluates coastal/river management strategies with strong use of case study detail.
Urban Issues and Challenges	Developing	Recognises basic urban growth patterns and issues.
	Securing	Describes urban change and challenges with reference to case studies.
	Flourishing	Explains urban issues and sustainable strategies clearly with evidence.
	Excelling	Evaluates urban sustainability with detailed case study support and critical insight.
The Changing Economic World	Developing	Knows basic facts about development differences and indicators.
	Securing	Describes development strategies and their impacts with some understanding.
	Flourishing	Explains economic development processes using case study examples.
	Excelling	Evaluates strategies to reduce the development gap with critical use of evidence.
The Challenge of Resource Management	Developing	Identifies types of resources and basic global distribution.
	Securing	Describes resource issues in the UK and globally with some understanding.
	Flourishing	Explains challenges in managing water/energy/food resources.
	Excelling	Evaluates management of resource strategies with detailed knowledge and judgement.
Geographical Applications (Issue Evaluati	Developing	Identifies basic facts from the resource booklet with limited interpretation.
	Securing	Describes key issues and begins to use evidence from resources.
	Flourishing	Explains viewpoints using detailed evidence and begins to justify decisions.
	Excelling	Evaluates issues confidently, synthesising sources and justifying well-argued decisions.
Geographical Skills	Developing	Can describe data and use basic map skills with support.
	Securing	Interprets maps, graphs and data with some accuracy and independence.
	Flourishing	Uses geographical skills confidently and selects appropriate techniques.
	Excelling	Analyses and evaluates data effectively to reach supported geographical conclusions.