

NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Geography National 4

GEOGRAPHY
SOCIAL STUDIES

NATIONAL
4

3
UNITS

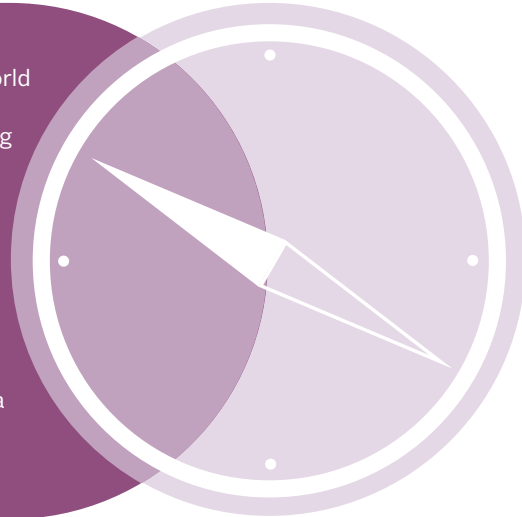
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS
HUMAN ENVIRONMENTS
GLOBAL ISSUES

+
ADDED
VALUE
UNIT

ADDED VALUE UNIT: GEOGRAPHY ASSIGNMENT

What skills will my child develop?

- straightforward knowledge and understanding of our changing world and its human and physical processes
- a range of geographical skills, techniques and experiences including fieldwork and practical activities
- straightforward understanding of spatial relationships and of the changing world in a balanced, critical and sympathetic way
- a geographical perspective on environmental and social issues
- an open mind and respect for other values, beliefs and cultures
- an interest in, and concern for, the environment, leading to sustainable development and environmental stewardship
- using, interpreting and explaining a range of geographical information and geographical phenomena including maps and data
- the ability to investigate, research, critically evaluate and communicate information and findings
- an awareness of geographical information systems (eg using ICT)



WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning through self and peer evaluations, reflecting on learning, setting targets, evaluating progress
- A blend of classroom approaches including practical and experiential learning through fieldwork; group work; whole class learning and teaching; discussion and debate; outdoor learning
- Collaborative learning: learners can work in groups and with others locally, nationally and internationally; inter-curricular projects with the sciences and other social studies
- Space for personalisation and choice: learners may choose their Assignment topic and their methods of researching and presenting evidence, including fieldwork
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy and numeracy skills: researching and presenting information; evaluating; communicating.

ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 4, learners must pass all Units
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre (following SQA external quality assurance to meet national standards)
- Unit assessment (or 'evidence of learning') might include digital or oral presentations, recorded DVD/video, written work, podcasts, wall displays. A portfolio of work may be prepared
- The Added Value Unit (Assignment) will involve learners in selecting, researching and presenting findings on an issue of their choice, applying their knowledge and understanding.

National 4 progresses onto National 5

For more detailed course information:

SQA: Geography National 4: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45705.html

Education Scotland: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf

ACTIVE LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

We were encouraged to think about the built environment around us. We walked around the local village and looked at housing, our school, our community facilities and mapped them out. My dad is a town and country planner and he came in and explained to the class what town planning is all about. Planning applications must meet certain requirements, such as providing housing or facilities which are needed by local people, and being the right size, shape and look for the place where they will be built.



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