

Blencathra Field Studies Centre

Lake District



AQA B GCSE Geography Programme Options



- Quality teaching
- Stunning locations
- Dedication to health and safety

“The programme was perfect. The students fully enjoyed their learning and experiences. Great use of ICT and fieldwork equipment.”

Teacher, St Cuthbert Mayne School
(March 2011)

“A wonderful centre. I always look forward to bringing the students and they always enjoy their visit”


Teacher, King Edwards VI Aston
(Jan 2011)

“The quality of care and guidance offered to students is outstanding as are the arrangements to ensure their safety and well-being” (PEF, 2011)

AQA B GCSE Geography Programme Options

The following programme options are designed to meet the aims of the AQA B GCSE specification, including the Controlled Assessment elements of the course. If your requirements are not covered by the outlines suggested below, then please contact the centre to discuss the possible alternatives. All groups booking a course at the Blencathra Course will be contacted by a member of the education team to discuss the specific details of their course.

First taught session:	Number of students:
Last taught session:	Number of school staff:
Tutor(s):	
Specific educational/physical needs:	

The Controlled Assessment – We offer three core modules which allow students to undertake an enquiry they can then write up for the Controlled Assessment. These will be adapted each year to match the titles AQA set.	
Sessions	Topic
Estimated Arrival Time:	
Welcome and introduction to the centre	Students are kitted out with the equipment that they will need for their course and settle into their rooms ready for dinner. The first session will start at ____.
The Coastal Environment	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">Outline</div> <div style="flex-grow: 1;">  <p>Students investigate the defence strategies along the coastline at St Bees. Students will carry out beach profile measurements, bi-polar assessments and a land use survey.</p> <p>2012 focus: Investigate a coastal management strategy within a locality.</p> </div> </div>
The Urban Environment	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">Outline</div> <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>Students investigate the impact of the Maryport redevelopment project on the housing, tourist facilities and environmental quality of the town centre and harbour front for the 2012 submission. For the 2013 submission students will investigate the management of pedestrians and traffic surrounding the New Squares development and the centre of Penrith.</p> <p>2012 focus: Investigate a redevelopment project within an urban area.</p> <p>2013 focus: Investigate method(s) used to manage people movement and/or traffic in urban areas.</p> </div> </div>
Global Tourism	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">Outline</div> <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>Students will investigate the economic, social and environmental impacts of tourism on a honeypot location within the Lake District National Park, either Grasmere village or Keswick. Students will use a variety of data collection techniques suitable to their study, such as questionnaires, service tallies and environmental quality assessments.</p> <p>2013 focus: Investigate how tourism can create challenges for people and/or communities.</p> </div> </div>

Other Fieldwork Options		
Sessions	Topic	
Tourism (Challenges and Conflicts)	Outline	Students will develop case study knowledge of conflicts within a tourist honeypot where tourism has brought benefits to an area, but also challenges to people and the local community. Location: Grasmere village or Keswick
The Coastal Environment	Outline	Students assess different coastal defences and consider how effective they are at protecting coastlines from coastal processes. This builds upon an investigation into the impact of longshore drift on beach profiles. Students will develop fieldwork and analysis skills as well as collect data and information to allow them to complete their controlled assessment. Location: St Bees Head

Additional Notes

- Please feel free to request further details on the content, learning objectives and outcomes for each topic we teach.
- The order of days and location of study sites may be varied due to the weather, and to avoid equipment/transport clashes.
- Students are requested to bring a pen, pencil and paper. They may also find a camera, USB pen, calculator, protractor, folder in which to keep their work, colouring pencils and graph paper useful.
- It is advised that you bring a USB pen or portable hard drive onto which resources and students' work can be saved.
- Students will undertake activities outdoors for extended periods of time and should therefore be dressed appropriately for the prevailing weather conditions. **They will need walking boots, a waterproof jacket with hood and waterproof trousers.** All the above items can be hired from centre for £2 each.



Transport *[select bullet points as appropriate]*

- Transport to the fieldwork sites will be provided by Blencathra Field Studies Centre. This will incur an additional cost of [**£cost**] per student. For a detailed breakdown of the cost, please see the details of each day. An invoice will be made out to the school and sent out to the organiser immediately after the course.
- Transport to the fieldwork sites will provided by the school.
- If you have been asked to drive during the course, please complete a driving form and provide us with a copy of your full driving licence in advance.
- You are booked to be picked up at Penrith Station at [**time**] on [**date**] and dropped off at [**time**] on [**date**]. This incurs an additional charge of [**£cost**] per student.
- You have not currently booked any transfers between the centre and Penrith Station. If you wish to take advantage of this option, please enquire.

A Typical Day

We make the most of your time whilst at the centre. A typical day normally consists of a classroom session starting at 9.30am, followed by fieldwork from 10.30am to 4pm in the afternoon. On return, the students enjoy a break and then follow-up their learning in the classroom until 6pm. The after dinner session typically lasts one hour.

Health & Safety

All tutored sessions are risk assessed and led by experienced teaching staff with specialist knowledge and fieldwork expertise. They all hold first aid qualifications and are trained in H&S and group management. We hold the Quality Badge by The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, which is awarded to organisations which have demonstrated that they consistently deliver high quality teaching and learning experiences and manage risk effectively. This means that you will have to complete less paperwork when visiting our centre.



Adventurous Activities

We are fully accredited to offer a range of more adventurous activities such as gill scrambling and mountain walking. These offer the students a marvellous opportunity to develop their personal and leadership skills in a less academic environment and may also help you to sell the fieldwork to the young people and parents and governors.

Who are we?

Blencathra Field Studies Centre is one of 17 centres in the UK run by the Field Studies Council, an independent education charity committed to bringing environmental understanding to all. We offer tailor-made packages for school and youth groups as well as providing outreach education and adult training. Leading the field in innovative, effective and enjoyable approaches to learning outside the classroom, we are confident of providing a safe, secure and caring atmosphere in which your students will widen their geographical understanding, improve their motivation and develop their personal and social skills. We can accommodate up to 110 people full-board, including a self-contained, self-catering unit for up to 22 people and offer a choice of ½ or full day taught sessions.

