

GCE GEOGRAPHY BULLETIN, APRIL 2025

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break, and that this newsletter finds you well. It provides key dates and information for the coming exam season and links to guidance around the use of AI in candidate NEAs. Potential misuse of AI in candidate assessments is a concern for us all, but there is help, guidance and support available from the <u>Joint Council for Qualifications</u> (JCQ).

As always, if you have any questions about the content of this newsletter or any aspect of our specification or assessments, get in touch. We are always happy to help in any way can.

KEY DATES FOR SUMMER 2025

C1 AS	Tuesday, 13 May	C1 A level	Tuesday, 13 May
Examination	(PM)	Examination	(AM)
C2 AS	Wednesday, 21 May	C2 A level	Thursday, 22 May
Examination	(AM)	Examination	(PM)
		C3 A level	Friday, 6 June
		Examination	(AM)
		Results Day	Thursday, 14
			August

Remember that you can access all your marked candidate scripts via Portal from results day on 14th of August. These will be available for download until late autumn, but you must secure the consent of your candidates before accessing them. Please see your Exams Officer for further details.

Your centre's moderator report will also be available on IAMIS from results day. Please download this for your reference as they will be deleted from IAMIS in early November prior to our next examination series.

SPECIFICATION UPDATES

Please be aware of the <u>minor updates to the specification</u> announced in June 2024. Although these changes are minor, these are <u>valid for all AS examinations in 2025</u>, with A level updates effective for examination from 2026. Copies of both versions of the A level specifications are available on our website and all AS candidates should be aware of updates relevant to this series. All updates to specifications are listed inside the front cover of each specification document on the website.

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION SUBMISSIONS + AI in NEA

Thank you very much for submitting your independent investigation samples and your fieldwork declarations at the end of March. Each year we see some excellent work and great geography and we thank you for your hard work in ensuring that the students meet the early deadlines.



Later this term, some of you may be thinking about the next cohort and may be starting the planning phase. <u>We would wish to remind you that the submission process will</u> change in 2026. All NEA samples will be uploaded via IAMIS so students must bear this in mind when writing up their investigations. It would also be most helpful if candidates follow the suggested structure of the investigation faithfully, with separate sections provided for each element of the mark scheme.

They must be aware that the use of <u>Artificial Intelligence</u> tools for research purposes should be cited within their investigations and that no candidates should be using AI tools to plagiarise content submitted as their 'own work'.

Be aware that 'chatbot' generated content does not demonstrate knowledge and understanding in relation to the specification and cannot be credited (even where candidates acknowledge use). JCQ have published a wealth of guidance on the use of AI in NEA assessments (including guidance and posters for students). Every centre should have a policy in place to allow the investigation of potential misuse of AI, so please make sure you are familiar with your own centre's policy. This <u>link</u> will take you to the JCQ guidance and all relevant resources and will reassure you around guiding your students to avoid potential disqualification if they are caught misusing AI.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING IN 2025

In June, we will be releasing the dates for our Examination Feedback free online sessions. Keep an eye on the <u>Professional Learning pages</u> of our website. These will be held in November, and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. All materials will be available to download via Portal following the event.

We will also be providing full guidance on the NEA sample upload process from 2026.

NEXT BULLETIN

The next bulletin will be sent out in September. In the meantime, may I take this opportunity to wish all your students every success during the forthcoming examination series and wish you a very pleasant summer break.

Best wishes,

Erin

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