

# GCSE GEOLOGY

## Why choose GCSE Geology?

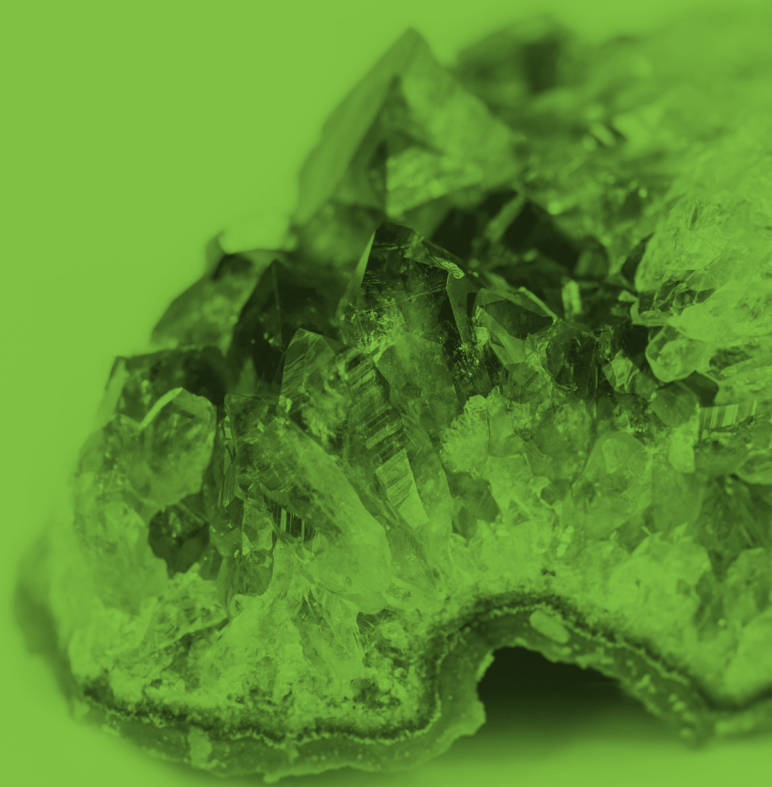
Geology involves the study of the processes that have formed Planet Earth over millions of years. It is important to know how our planet works in order to manage its resources effectively and to cope with the hazards and changes that are happening to the Earth around us. There has never been a more interesting time to be involved in the science that studies the Earth. If you study Geology, you will never look at our world in quite the same way again.

## What will I study?

You will study a range of topics concerning Planet Earth, including how the movements of the Earth's crust cause hazards for us, and how the Earth has provided us with geological resources essential for us to live. You will learn about the clues contained in igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks that allow us to work out how they formed. You will study the fossils found in rocks that reveal the development of life on Earth. You will also learn about the geology of Mars and the Moon, and evidence for previous times of climate change on Earth.

## Fieldwork

Fieldwork is an essential part of geology. You will go on a number of fieldtrips, visiting places where rocks can be easily seen at the Earth's surface. Once you have studied Geology for a while you will be able to collect information on your fieldtrips that will allow you to work out what the Earth was like millions of years ago.



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## What skills will I develop?

Geology is above all a problem-solving science subject. You will develop practical skills, in both the classroom and outdoors, that will help you to gather information about processes that have formed the Earth.

You will develop investigative skills such as analysing and interpreting the evidence that is contained in the rocks and fossils.

You will become able to evaluate evidence, to decide which of two conflicting theories might be the more likely.

## How will I be assessed?

**There are two exams at the end of year 11. One of these is an on-screen exam which you will take on a computer.**

## Careers with Geology

There are a wide range of careers that geology students can progress on to including those involving:

- developing a sustainable future for ourselves and the Earth
- exploring for and extracting useful materials from the Earth
- protecting the environment from the effects of human activity,

- monitoring and reducing the impacts of geological hazards such as earthquakes and volcanoes
- research into the geological history of Earth and other planets
- how we and the Earth might respond to climate change.

In addition, students who have studied geology have developed many transferable skills and are actively sought out by a wide variety of employers.