

# Eduqas AS and A level Geology

## September 2022 Newsletter

### CPD 2022

Eduqas GCE Geology CPD will consist of two separate events.

#### 1. Practical Endorsement Update:

This CPD will be delivered online on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 4-5.30pm** and is designed for practitioners teaching the **Eduqas A level Geology** specification. The 1½-hour session will review the features of candidate work which is being undertaken for the practical endorsement. It will offer guidance and suggestions to give teachers an outline of best practice in this area. There will be an opportunity to take part in a question-and-answer session with practical endorsement/subject experts.

#### 2. Review of the Summer 2022 Exam Series:

This CPD will be delivered online on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 4-6pm** and is designed for practitioners teaching the Eduqas AS/A level Geology specifications. The 2-hour session will review the recent summer 2022 assessment series, exploring examples of marked candidates' external assessments. Particular attention will be paid to candidate performance on extended response questions. It will also consider how feedback on assessments can inform, develop and improve teaching and learning.

For both of these events, please see details and booking information on the Eduqas website at [https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geology-as-a-level/?sub\\_nav\\_level=courses#tab\\_training](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geology-as-a-level/?sub_nav_level=courses#tab_training).

### ESTA Conference 2022

This year's Earth Science Teachers Association Conference takes place at The University of Leicester from Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022. WJEC Eduqas will be running CPD sessions on the Saturday morning, giving brief feedback on the 2022 AS and A level examinations. In addition, we will have a stand at the event throughout the weekend. It would be great to see you there.

Full details can be found on the conference website at <https://earthscience.org.uk/training/conference/>

### The Practical Endorsement

## Training

It is a requirement that the lead teacher in each centre following the WJEC Eduqas A level Geology specification has undergone some form of training. For lead teachers who have not yet undertaken face to face training or online training, (perhaps because you have only started teaching the Eduqas A level Geology specification in the last year or two) it is imperative that you undergo online training by reading each of the documents in the Practical Endorsement Training section of the website available at [Geology practical endorsement training](#).

If you are then unclear about any aspects regarding the practical endorsement, please email [geology@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:geology@eduqas.co.uk) for further advice.

## Assessing the CPAC

Unlike last year, when Covid adaptations applied, centres will be required to assess the Common Practical Assessment Criteria (CPAC) across the usual wide range of practical activities to enable students to demonstrate their competence in A level Geology. This applies to candidates entering for the summer 2023 examination series and thereafter.

Candidates may no longer use the 'Lab based fieldwork exercise for the Practical Endorsement', in the Practical Endorsement section of the Key Documents, for assessing field-based skills. However, this may prove a useful exercise to train candidates prior to fieldwork. Teacher notes and materials to support this can be found on the secure website under the Non-Examination Assessment Tasks tab.

## Information re Monitoring Visits

Each centre teaching A level Geology and entering candidates for the Eduqas A level Geology examinations in 2023 will need to have been 'visited' during the period October 2021 to March 2023. The monitoring of the Practical Endorsement will be undertaken by a monitoring visit to your centre, rather than remotely as has been the case for the last two years. Arrangements for this will be sent out to those centres who were not visited remotely in the previous academic year. This will also include centres new to teaching Eduqas Geology in September 2022. The procedures for the monitoring visits will be the same as for the other A level Sciences. A practical endorsement monitor will contact you in due course.

## Intention to Enter (for centres new the Eduqas Geology)

In order for the awarding organisations to arrange monitoring visits it is a requirement that each centre informs the relevant awarding organisation that they are intending to teach their specification. All Eduqas A level Geology centres must have contacted [matthew.roberts@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:matthew.roberts@eduqas.co.uk) to register their intention to teach and enter candidates for the Eduqas specification. If you have not previously done this, perhaps because you have only embarked on teaching the Eduqas specification relatively recently, you must register with Matthew Roberts without delay.

## Fieldwork Statements

For candidates entering the AS or A level examinations in summer 2023 and beyond, the adaptations put in place in relation to Covid no longer apply. Learners are required to have undertaken a minimum of 4 days in the field for the A level qualification, and 2 days for the AS qualification. The specification states that each centre must provide details of their fieldwork on a Fieldwork Statement.

Where centres are entering candidates for both AS and A level qualifications, **separate AS and A level Fieldwork Statements must be submitted each year.** These are both available on the Eduqas website at

[A level geology fieldwork statement](#)

[AS geology fieldwork statement](#)

They must be submitted using the e mail address [geology@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:geology@eduqas.co.uk) by 15<sup>th</sup> May of the year in which those candidates will be sitting their examinations.

### Practical Work

One of the adaptations that applied to candidates sitting the GCE in summer 2022 was that centres were permitted to deliver practical work in AS/A level Geology by demonstration. Centres should be ensuring that for candidates entering the GCE examinations in summer 2023 and beyond, practical work is delivered through hands-on practical activities for their learners, and not by demonstration.

### New Resources available on the Eduqas Geology website/secure site

**Knowledge Organisers:** A bank of knowledge organisers to support the teaching and learning of AS/A level Geology are available on the website at

[Eduqas A level Geology digital resources](#)

These could be used for revision or as a starting point for creating your own knowledge organisers.

### Summer 2022 past papers and mark schemes

The AS and A level Geology papers and mark schemes for summer 2022 are now available on the secure website.

The accompanying Examiners' Reports are on the Eduqas AS/A level Geology webpage at [Eduqas A Level Geology Examiners' Report 2022](#) / [Eduqas AS Geology Examiners' Report 2022](#)

### E mail contact

If you have subject specific enquiries then please make contact with the Geology team by using the e mail address [geology@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:geology@eduqas.co.uk) . Please note that the Subject Support Officer for Geology is Matthew Roberts.