



## FSC Outdoor Classroom for Scotland Standard Grade Programmes

*FSC programmes are fixed length courses with clearly stated outcomes and links to SQA Arrangements.*

Geography:  
Physical Environments  
3 days

Keen to use real world learning to create **engaged** students?  
Want to promote **teamwork** and social skills?  
Interested in effectively **challenging** gifted and talented students?  
Aim to make A Curriculum for Excellence fun through **memorable** experiences?  
Seek **inclusive** experiences that appeal to a range of learners?

Please visit  
<http://www.field-studies-council.org/outdoorclassroom/scotland/standardgrade.aspx>  
for alternative Standard Grade programmes

## OVERVIEW

This three day programme focuses on the '*Physical Environment*' unit of the Arrangement. During the course all students will benefit from expert tuition in a beautiful highland setting, while experiencing *real* geographical situations first hand.

This is a short course that packs a lot of geography into a limited amount of time. Students will leave with a greater understanding of fieldwork and geography, along with primary data that can be analysed further, back at school.

Reward Sessions are included in evening activities to help encourage and motivate students.

## PROGRAMME LENGTH

3 Days (2 nights with 6 teaching sessions)

*Monday-Friday, Wednesday-Sunday*

Groups would normally arrive in time to be taught in the afternoon of the first day and would then be taught on that evening and for three full days subsequently. Groups depart immediately after the morning session on the day of departure.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Arrive Afternoon & evening sessions	Morning, afternoon & evening sessions	Morning session Depart after Lunch

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

Includes:

- Introduction to geographical investigation and sampling methods
- Data collection using a range of fieldwork techniques and equipment - observation, measurement and recording
- Analysis, presentation and interpretation of data

The techniques covered, are presented within the following contexts:

- Rivers and flooding
- Weather and Climate
- Upland glaciated landscapes

The daytime sessions are concentrated. As a balance, evening /reward activities are offered, including a choice of ropes challenge, orienteering, team building and problem solving.

## **ARRANGEMENT LINKS:**

### **3 7 The Physical Environment**

**Key idea 1:** Physical landscapes are the product of natural processes and are always changing.

**Key idea 2:** The elements of weather can be identified, observed, measured, recorded and classified. As a result, dynamic patterns can be identified and used for forecasting.

**Key idea 4:** The physical environment offers a range of possibilities for, and limitations on, human activities.

**Key idea 5:** There are many competing demands for the use of rural landscapes.

### **3 10 Techniques**

#### ***Gathering techniques***

- Extracting information from maps
- Field sketching
- Measuring (rivers, weather)
- Recording observed information on a map (land-use)
- Observing and recording (environmental quality, weather)

#### ***Processing Techniques***

- Organising information – using classes/tables/matrices
- Drawing graphs (bar, line, scatter)
- Drawing maps (land-use)
- Drawing cross-sections/transects
- Annotating maps, graphs and field sketches.

## TIMETABLE

DAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
1	<p><b>Arrival</b> (approx. 12 - 1pm)</p> <p><b>Welcome and outline the challenges ahead</b></p> <p>Tour of centre Settle into rooms Allocate kit (i.e. waterproofs)</p> <p><b>Introduction to Fieldwork</b> Introductory discussion to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of fieldwork in geography</li> <li>• Geographical sampling methods and techniques</li> <li>• Aims of the three day course</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weather and Climate investigation</b> Students undertake weather investigation using Kindrogan's Stevenson Screen to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn how to measure weather and climate in the field</li> <li>• Measure climatic variable on the ascent of Kindrogan hill</li> </ul> <p><b>Follow up session</b> Using light, air and ground temperature, humidity and rainfall data collected in the previous session, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide graphical analysis of results</li> <li>• Discuss field and analysis techniques and limitations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Reward Session: Orienteering/ropes challenge options</b> Students undertake an orienteering activity or a rope challenge course, working in pairs to develop verbal communication skills</p>
2	<p><b>Upland River study</b> Students undertake river investigation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn more about fieldwork techniques used for river studies</li> <li>• Measure width, depth and velocity at various river sites</li> <li>• Observe a range of river landforms and consider the processes which have formed them</li> </ul>	<p><b>Follow up session</b> Students will use data collected in the previous session to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculate CSA and velocity</li> <li>• Construct CSA graphs</li> <li>• Review of field and analysis techniques and their limitations</li> <li>• Reach conclusions on how the river is changing with distance downstream</li> </ul>	<p><b>Reward Session: Egg Challenge!</b> Team building challenge where students design a contraption to protect a raw egg from certain destruction. Challenge aims to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance learning about an effective design process</li> <li>• Improve team working and communication skills</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Upland Glaciation</b> Students will undertake a field sketching exercise from a vantage point over the glen to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the need for and process of field sketching and/or sampling</li> <li>• Gain further understanding of the need for a range of information to identify the impacts of human and physical landscape processes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lunch and Depart</b></p>	

**Please note:** to ensure safe and quality learning experiences for students the timetable may alter depending on weather conditions and local factors at centres.

### **FSC KINDROGAN**

Located in rural Perthshire, at the edge of the Cairngorms National Park FSC Kindrogan is 11 miles from Pitlochry's mainline train station and close to the A9. The Centre itself is set in wooded grounds on the banks of the River Ardle and lies within easy reach of some of the most inspiring landforms in the Scottish Highlands and a rich range of wildlife habitats.



KD

Kindrogan

Tel: 01250 870150

### **TO BOOK THIS PROGRAMME, SIMPLY:**

1. Choose the time of the year you would like to attend
2. Check availability online or contact FSC Kindrogan

Please visit

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/outdoorclassroom/scotland/standardgradegeography.aspx>

for alternative standard Grade programmes

**The FSC prides itself on being flexible. If you can't find a programme to meet your exact requirements a course specifically tailored to meet your needs can be developed. To discuss this, contact the centre of your choice. Fees will depend on what time of year you would like to visit and your length of stay but will be more expensive than FSC programmes at peak periods.**