



AQA A-Level Geography

At Rhyd-y-creuau we pride ourselves on our flexible approach when designing fieldwork to meet the learning needs of students. The options listed here are popular with our groups and are designed to meet the requirements of your specification. However, if your requirements are not catered for in the suggested outlines below please contact us to discuss possible alternatives.

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Please visit

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/rhydycreuau/>

for alternative KS2, KS3, GCSE and A-level options, including
Adventurous Activities and student and teacher resources



At Rhyd-y-creuau you can opt for **either a flexible course** or a fixed **programme**. These courses all aim to prepare students for Unit 2, the Geographical Skills AS Paper (GEOG2) and/or the optional Unit 4A, the Geographical Fieldwork Investigation Paper (GEO4B), as well as link with the content from other units (links are outlined below).

- **Flexible courses** give you a greater choice of options and days. We will plan the course with you in advance to ensure we match your exact requirements.
- **Programmes** are predesigned to meet the specification requirements; they have a fixed content (outlined below) and fixed start and end times.

Linked to the curriculum, popular modules for our flexible courses are outlined below.

Possible Day Investigations

<p>RIVERS</p> <p>Transport needed</p>	<p>An investigation on changing channel characteristics with distance downstream. All students will develop river fieldwork skills, use different methods to collect data and observe different river landforms.</p> <p>Data will be collated and analysed by students using a variety of presentation techniques (including scatter graphs) and statistical techniques (Spearman’s Rank). This study will explicitly aim to prepare students for the AS Geographical Skills Paper (Geog 2).</p>	<p>Locations: River Conwy or Nant Perris</p> <p>Unit 1, Physical and Human Geography (core physical section – Rivers, Floods and Management)</p>
<p>Morning</p> <p>CATCHMENT PROCESSES</p> <p>Afternoon</p> <p>A FLOODING CASE STUDY IN LLANRWST</p> <p>Transport Needed</p>	<p>Students assess the flood risk in the Conwy drainage basin, relating elements of the water cycle (such as infiltration) to river discharge and the likely storm hydrograph on a river. Infiltration, interception and storm run-off experiments are related to physical and human factors affecting flooding in the Conwy Valley.</p> <p>Students will also visit Llanrwst as a case study example of river flooding, where they will consider the impacts of flooding and observe what can be done to manage a river where flooding is likely. Activities include: mapping flood risk and assessing flood defences.</p>	<p>Locations: Conwy Valley and the Centre grounds</p> <p>Locations: Llanrwst</p> <p>Unit 1, Physical & Human Geography (Rivers, Floods and Management)</p>
<p>ECOSYSTEMS IN THE BRITISH ISLES</p> <p>Transport Needed</p>	<p>Students carry out an investigation across a sand dune ecosystem; transect sampling to collect data on vegetation, soil and micro-climate. Data are then used to explore how the environment is changing over time. Data presentation and analysis skills will be developed during this follow up, preparing students for the Geographical Fieldwork Investigations Paper at A2.</p>	<p>Locations: Morfa Harlech NNR</p> <p>Unit 3, Contemporary Geographical Issues (Ecosystems)</p>

<p>COLD ENVIRONMENTS</p> <p>Transport Needed</p>	<p>Fieldwork focuses on exploring the impact of ice on the landscape, observing the features created in glacial and periglacial environments. Students will identify a number of different landforms and outline how these landforms were created. They will use evidence collected during the day to suggest what the area would have been like during the last two glacial events in the region.</p>	<p>Locations: Cwm Idwal and Ogwen</p> <p>Unit 1, (Cold Environments) & Unit 3, (Weather and climate)</p>
<p>COLD ENVIRONMENTS: LOWLAND GLACIATION</p> <p>Transport Needed</p>	<p>Students will investigate the depositional features created at the edge of the North Welsh ice cap and Irish Sea ice sheet 18,000 years ago. Through collecting data on the dip and orientation of material within a till deposit students will identify where these deposits came from and how it was transported to this area of the Welsh coast. A meltwater stream deposit, varves and drumlins will also be visited during the day.</p>	<p>Locations: Aber Ogwen & Conwy Valley</p> <p>Unit 1, Physical and Human Geography (Cold Env.)</p>
<p>GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE</p> <p>Transport Needed</p>	<p>Different relic glacial landforms in North Wales will be identified by students to help develop an awareness of how the climate has changed over the past 20,000 years. The landforms will be related to the sequence in which they were formed, with a major ice age 18,000 years ago, and evidence of a smaller glacial period 10,000 years ago. Students will then consider the reasons for these climatic changes and what may happen to the area in the future.</p>	<p>Locations: Cwm Idwal and Ogwen</p> <p>Unit 1, Physical & Human Geography (Cold Env.) & Unit 3, (Weather and Climate)</p>
<p>HUMAN ENVIRONMENTS</p> <p>Transport Needed</p>	<p>Students will establish the differences in characteristics between two Human Environments, within the coastal town of Llandudno. Fieldwork techniques will include assessments of service provision environmental quality assessment and use of secondary Census data to compare an outer suburb and a residential area close to the CBD which has high levels of deprivation.</p>	<p>Locations: Llanrwst & Llandudno</p> <p>Unit 1, Physical & Human Geography (Pop. Change)</p>
<p>COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS</p> <p>Transport needed</p>	<p>Students undertake a fieldwork investigation to assess the impact of coastal processes (with particular reference to wave type and longshore drift) on beach shape and dimensions and observe a number of coastal landforms. They will also assess different coastal management strategies using cost benefit analysis by students, in order to compare hard and soft engineering structures.</p>	<p>Locations: Criccieth</p> <p>Unit 1, Physical & Human Geography (Coastal Environments)</p>

Possible half day investigations

Two half days can be combined to create a full day or used as half day sessions at the start or end of your course.

<p>CATCHMENT PROCESSES</p>	<p>Students assess the flood risk in the Conwy drainage basin, relating elements of the water cycle (such as infiltration) to river discharge and the likely storm hydrograph on a river. Infiltration, interception and storm run-off experiments are related to physical and human factors affecting flooding in the Conwy Valley.</p>	<p>Locations: Near Centre grounds Unit 1, Physical & Human Geography (Rivers, Floods and Management)</p>
<p>A FLOODING CASE STUDY IN LLANRWST Transport Needed</p>	<p>Students will also visit Llanrwst as a case study example of river flooding, where they will consider the impacts of flooding and observe what can be done to manage a river where flooding is likely. Activities include: mapping flood risk and assessing flood defences.</p>	<p>Locations: Llanrwst Unit 1, Physical & Human Geography (Rivers, Floods and Management)</p>
<p>CLIMATIC CLIMAX VEGETATION</p>	<p>This study will explore a deciduous oak and beech woodland at Coed Hafod in the Conwy Valley, giving students the opportunity to understand the characteristics of vegetation and soil in a climatic climax and the diversity which exists within this environment.</p>	<p>Locations: Coed Hafod Unit 3, (Ecosystems)</p>
<p>PLAGIOCLIMAX VEGETATION</p>	<p>The Deciduous Woodland of Coed Hafod will be contrasted with nearby plagio-climaxes of a coniferous ecosystem and spoil heap where people and management have impacted on the environment. Data collected will include: species diversity at ground level and above, light intensity, soil pH and soil temperature.</p>	<p>Locations: Conwy Valley Unit 3, (Ecosystems)</p>

Our Tutors

All our staff complete a rigorous training process; including first aid, health and safety sessions, group management in the outdoor classroom, site specific training relating subject knowledge to our outdoor environments and curriculum content.

About the Centre

At the gateway of Snowdonia National Park, the centre itself is a Georgian house set in two hectares of wooded grounds with Eco Centre status, allowing you to experience a sustainable lifestyle, only 1 hour 50 minutes from Manchester and 3 hours 40 minutes from the M25.

What is included within the fee?

- Up to 10 hours of tuition a day.
- Expert tuition by fully trained staff
- Full board accommodation including a cooked breakfast, picnic lunch, homemade cakes and an evening meal. Vegetarian and other dietary options are available.
- Use of resources including library, workrooms, studios and the Centre grounds.
- Transport to all field sites, where required, during the course.
- Rigorous and proven health and safety procedures including 24 hour emergency cover
- Access to risk assessments
- Specialist equipment and exclusive access to specially developed resources
- E-mail support before and after the course (on request)

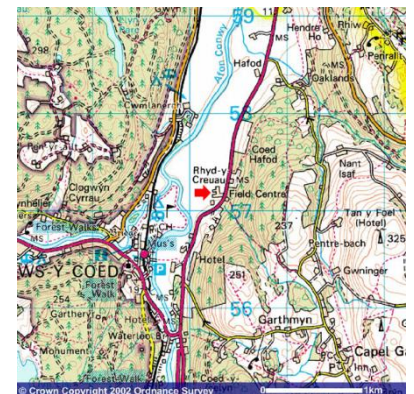
Please remember travel to the field centre and to fieldwork sites is not included in the programme fee.

What to Bring

- (Old) Warm clothes - we may get muddy and wet.
- Waterproof top, waterproof trousers, a comfortable day sack, gloves, cosy hat. (Can be hired from the Centre)
- Note paper, calculator and stationary

Directions to the Centre

We are located on A470, between Betws-y-coed and Llanrwst. If you are coming from the North Wales coast, go through the town of Llanrwst and continue along the A470 towards Betws-y-coed for 3 miles. The Centre is on the right at a bend with woods on both sides.



Alternatively, from the A5 to the south take a right along the A470 just before you go into Betws-y-coed follow this road for a mile and we are on the left.

To book a course, simply:

1. Choose the time of the year you would like to attend
2. Contact us at Rhyd-y-creuau by e-mail at enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org or by phone (01690) 710494 to check availability and prices.

Why Come to FSC Rhyd-y-creuau?

Some of the most common reasons which our customers give for coming to our popular Field Centre are:

- The centre's stunning situation nestled in the Conwy Valley, at the entrance to Snowdonia National Park.
- We are easily accessible from Manchester, Liverpool and London, with the good coach access to the Centre and Betws-y-coed train station 3 minutes drive away.
- Expert tuition from our tutors who have a passion for the environment and are knowledgeable ecologists and geographers.
- A friendly welcoming place to visit, with hearty meals and clean and comfortable rooms.
- A unique blend of local habitats and environments to visit. Both **coasts** with craggy cliffs and expansive sand dunes and **mountains** shaped by ice and with unique ecological communities.



Quality Tuition

The tutor delivering the content plays a vital role in ensuring successful learning outcomes are achieved.

This is why we have taken great care in developing a qualified team of highly trained and CRB checked field teachers working full time, all year round.

Not only are they experts, they are gifted teachers with a real passion for the subject being taught. FSC field teachers are the reason why many schools return year after year.

Quality Badge awarded by



External Recognition of Quality

Rhyd-y-creuau has been awarded the Quality Badge by The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom. The badge is awarded to organisations that 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.

Protecting Fieldwork Opportunities

Growing pressures on outdoor learning has led the FSC to take on an important role; championing the rights and opportunities for people of all ages to experience the environment at first hand.

The FSC has led in campaigns to reverse the continuing decline in fieldwork within secondary schools and to build opportunities for out-of-classroom learning. The FSC continues to work closely with the government and other partners to develop out-of-classroom learning.

As a registered charity, the FSC receives no statutory funding. It relies solely on fees charged for courses and membership. Therefore, by visiting an FSC Centre not only are you receiving a high quality educational experience for your students, you are also helping to protect fieldwork opportunities for everybody.