

**AQA A framework for A level geography data collection at the Cranedale Centre where data is to be used for the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA).**

Our aim is to assist where Ofqual guidelines allow collaboration, but not in areas which require independent work.

Levels of independence:

- Collaboration allowed - students **may** work as a class/group/pair,
- Independent work – students **must** work alone.

Investigation stage	Level of independence	Prior to the Course	On course	Post course
<b>Exploring focus</b>	Collaboration allowed	<p>Students should visit at least two contrasting environments prior to fieldwork.</p> <p>Cranedale Centre and school agree which environment is to be used. Cranedale to provide a pre-course pack of materials based on this location.</p> <p>All students provided with details of the specific locations to be visited on course, and the amount of time available for study.</p> <p>Students required to independently research the field of study and the location (with use of pre-course pack).</p> <p>Students made aware of what factors could be measured, (i.e. are appropriate and achievable) and what techniques might be used.</p> <p>Teacher provides training on route to enquiry and good investigative practice.</p> <p>Students to be already capable in their field skills before the course.</p>	<p>Cranedale staff set more detailed context to the location of study.</p> <p>Confirm field sites to be visited, and time available.</p>	<p>Further contextualising of location.</p> <p>Full justification of location and sites used.</p>
<b>Title of the investigation, focus of the investigation (sub-questions), purpose of the investigation</b>	Independent work	<p>Students to independently develop an area of interest and a draft title suitable for study within the framework of the proposed field itinerary.</p> <p>Each student to complete NEA proposal section of the Candidate Record Form (CRF) which should be reviewed at school before the field trip. Advice can be sought from Cranedale about the practicalities of titles, but we will not be able to review CRF.</p>	No further development of this.	<p>Students refine and finalise their own title and sub-titles based upon their initial interest and the actual fieldwork undertaken.</p>

		Prior to course	On course	Post Course
<b>Devising methodology and sampling framework</b>	Collaboration allowed	Training given on the principles of sampling. List of available equipment provided (provided in pre-course pack). Students divided in to groups of up to 4 in which they will collaborate. In groups students produce their sampling strategy and detail this on CRF. CRF reviewed at school before the field trip.	Prior to the fieldwork a classroom session to check and confirm the viability of fieldwork plans. Refine plans if necessary to accommodate logistical constraints. Where itinerary allows training given in the effective, safe and ethical use of field equipment.	Students to update CRF with any changes and reasons why. Students write full description and justification of methodologies used.
<b>Primary data collection</b>	Collaboration allowed	Students provided in advance with a list of what kit will be available on the data collection day (provided in pre-course pack).	Groups of students provided with a standardised kit bag containing a range of field equipment. Students work in subgroups. Whole class works at the same set location throughout.	Students strongly encouraged to go on and collect additional data in another “place”/ drainage basin/coast. This allows comparisons and further individualisation.
<b>Secondary data collection (if relevant)</b>	Independent work		Students made aware that the Cranedale website holds a bank of secondary data. Optional training workshop on how to research secondary data.	Undertaken individually by student.
<b>Data/ information presentation</b>	Independent work		Optional training workshop on presentation and GIS skills using alternative data.	Undertaken individually by student.
<b>Data analysis and explanation/ interpretation</b>	Independent work		Optional training workshop on quantitative and qualitative analysis skills using alternative data.	Undertaken individually by student.
<b>Conclusions and evaluation</b>	Independent work		Optional training workshop on drawing conclusion using alternative data.	Undertaken individually by student.

This framework is viable for parties of up to 30 students. Where numbers exceed 30 then two parallel courses can be offered, working on two different environments.

Although not advised, more than one student can have the same title – providing the title has been arrived at independently.

It is strongly advised that students have a copy of their NEA proposal section of the CRF for reference during the field trip.

**AQA approved.**