

**Liverpool Girls’ High School**

*Innovation Excellence Learning*

**Geography**

STAGE 6 PRELIMINARY ~ COURSE OUTLINE

The *Preliminary course* investigates aspects of both the natural environment and the human environment. It helps develop students’ knowledge of ecosystems and the issues of managing them. Skills are reinforced throughout the course both in class work and field work.

COURSE CONTENT

***Preliminary Course***

* Biophysical Interactions (45%) – how biophysical processes contribute to sustainable management.
* Global Challenges (45%) – geographical study of issues at a global scale.
* Senior Geography Project (10%) – a geographical study of student’s own choosing.

Key concepts incorporated across all topics: *change, environment, sustainability, spatial and ecological dimensions, interaction, technology, management and cultural integration.*

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students complete a Senior Geography Project (SGP) in the Preliminary course where they are required to present their research findings using formats such as electronic media, pictorial essay, written report or oral presentation. Students must also undertake 12 hours of fieldwork in each of the Preliminary and HSC courses. Trips to Field of Mars Reserve and Towra Point wetlands help facilitate compulsory fieldwork requirements.

**REPORTING PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENT IN PRELIMINARY COURSES**

The Common Grade Scale shown below is used to report student achievement and performance in the Preliminary Stage 6 year in all NSW schools.

The Common Grade Scale describes performance and achievement at each of five grade levels.

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| A | The student demonstrates extensive knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies highly developed skills and processes in a wide variety of contexts. In addition the student demonstrates creative and critical thinking skills using perceptive analysis and evaluation. The student effectively communicates complex ideas and information. |
| B | The student demonstrates thorough knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies well-developed skills and processes in a variety of contexts. In addition the student demonstrates creative and critical thinking skills using analysis and evaluation. The student clearly communicates complex ideas and information. |
| C | The student demonstrates sound knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies skills and processes in a range of familiar contexts. In addition the student demonstrates skills in selecting and integrating information and communicates relevant ideas in an appropriate manner. |
| D | The student demonstrates a basic knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies skills and processes in some familiar contexts. In addition the student demonstrates skills in selecting and using information and communicates ideas in a descriptive manner. |
| E | The student demonstrates an elementary knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies some skills and processes with guidance. In addition the student demonstrates elementary skills in recounting information and communicating ideas. |