Not the geography of the UK: case study focus at KS4

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Exam boards outline how the geography of the UK is to be studied. But the reality of textbooks and common case studies is a focus on England.

2c. **Content of Living in the UK Today (J383/01)**

This component investigates the dynamic and diverse geography of the UK. It draws on a range of themes to explore the changing but distinctive physical and human environments, the processes which drive them and the challenges they create. The content is divided into three themes exploring landscapes of the UK, the UK’s economic development and the people who live in the UK, and some of the environmental challenges that the country faces.
Common geography GCSE case studies/examples:

Spurn Head - Credit: Yorkshire wildlife

Others:
- Stratford, London
- Durdle Door
- Snowdonia.

Lake District, tourist honey pot

Credit: Lancs.live
Bow fiddle rock, Portknockie, Moray

credit: A.Monteith

Loch Avon, Cairngorms.

Credit: A.Monteith
Nairn spit, Moray coast
Credit: Bruce Cairns

Findhorn Spit, Moray coast.
Credit: Norman Davidson
Solution: Can we encourage more sharing of resources, links from across the UK?

- Highlight the diverse Geography of the UK
- Utilise local geography teacher expertise - share your area.
- Widen student’s understanding of the whole of the UK, their local area, reduce the geography ‘honey pot’ case studies.
- HOW?! - RGS host? Google Drive shared folder? GA? Individual sharing?
Case studies used at Gordonstoun freely available for all:

**KS4:**
- River Findhorn case study
- Moray coast case study
- Kellas Wind farm case study

**KS5:**
- Middlesbrough, rebranding
- Inverness, place profile
- Cairngorms, glaciation

More resources freely available at:

[www.gordonstoungeography.com](http://www.gordonstoungeography.com)

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