



GEOGRAPHY

Course Information

The new A Level in Geography aims to encourage students to develop a range of essential skills for Higher Education and the world of work, through content which is relevant to any citizen of the planet in the 21st century. It has been designed to give students the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to become engaged global citizens. Through the study of dynamic and contemporary content, students can understand and interact with issues which affect people and places at a range of scales from local to global – and all that is in between.

Students follow the OCR exam board. There are 4 components: Physical systems, Human interactions, Geographical debates and Investigative geography.

Physical systems (1hr 30min paper, 22%) – students will develop an understanding and appreciation of Landscape Systems, contextualised through coastal landscapes, and Earth's Life Support Systems, which encompasses the water and carbon cycles vital to our planet

Human interactions (1hr 30min paper, 22%) – students will explore the study of Global Connections, focusing on migration and sovereignty on a global scale, and Changing Spaces; Making Places, which will give students an insight into the nature of places and the fluidity of their meanings and representations.

Geographical debates (2hr 30min paper, 36%) – allows students to explore in depth two of the most challenging, dynamic and fascinating issues of the 21st century: climate change and tectonic hazards.

Investigative geography (Coursework, 20%) – allows students to undertake an independent investigation linked to any aspect of the course to satisfy their intellectual curiosity.

Fieldwork undertaken for at least **four** days throughout the A level course, including a residential trip.

Career Pathway

Geography combines well with both arts and science subjects. You may already be thinking ahead to potential university and career choices, so it is worth bearing in mind that geography is a broad based subject that really fits well for your future progression. For example, for careers in sustainability and green issues, urban regeneration, energy supply, retail location, managing the effects of hazards and climate change, geography is an obvious choice. For careers in the world of business, an understanding of global economics forms an important part of geography. If you are thinking of a career in law, human rights, international relations or welfare, then geography gives you the opportunity to consider relevant issues such as: How do we measure development? What are the consequences of migration on societies? If you are aiming at a future course in Medicine or Veterinary Medicine, then geography is a good choice to give your A Level options the breadth that universities like, as you will gain a clear understanding of how the environment affects the health and survival of people, animals and ecosystems, as well as enhancing your skills of writing essays and extended reports.

Student Destinations

In recent years students have gone on to take both single honours and joint honours courses at university. Also students have gone into the world of work, taken up apprenticeships and taken gap years.

Should you like to receive any additional information on this course please contact Mr Simon Gibson – Head of Department.