Geography





About the course

Geography is a dynamic and very relevant subject, which covers a huge breadth of topics. It is the study of natural landscapes (physical geography) and people and their environments (human geography).

In this course, you will learn about the physical and human processes that affect places and environments that shape the world in which we live. In Physical Geography, we study 3 topics; Coastal landscapes, Water and Carbon cycles and Hazards. In Human geography, we study a further 3 further topics; Changing places, Global Systems and Global Governance and Contemporary Urban environments.

At a personal level, you should be interested in the world around you and in learning about people, places and the environment. So many of the world's current issues – at a global scale and locally, boil down to geography and we need the geographers of the future to help us to understand them. The course will help you to develop both an awareness of and interest in both global and local issues.

During the course, you will experience a range of teaching and learning styles, both within and outside the classroom. These include fieldwork activities, decision making exercises, presentations of research material and thinking skills where you are actively involved in lessons. In order to complete tasks effectively you will have to develop a range of practical, descriptive and analytical skills.

Assessment

We study AQA Geography A level which is assessed by a combination of two exams and a non-examined assessment (NEA)

- Paper 1 is worth 40% of the final grade and it examines the physical geography topics
- Paper 2 is worth 40% of the final grade and it examines the human geography topics.
- The NEA is worth 20% of the final grade and is a 3000-4000 word written report based on a fieldwork investigation on a topic of your choice.



Careers

When you study geography, you develop an array of transferable skills. This allows you to access a variety of careers ranging from those that directly use the subject such as a town planner or hydrologist, to those that utilise geographical skills such as an environmental lawyer. Geography is also known as a facilitating subject, which means it is one of a handful of subjects commonly asked for in University entry requirements.

Entry Requirements

The syllabus requires that students have achieved a grade 5 or higher in GCSE geography and a grade 5 in either English literature or language.

Find Out More

If you wish to find out more details about the course, please speak to Mrs Cuthbert, head of geography or any member of the geography department.

Please also see our half termly geography newsletter.

