

GEOGRAPHY

“Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future”

Michael Palin, President - Royal Geographical Society

Experience:

Our A level is taught by a team of Geography / specialists with many years of experience teaching and examining between them.

Current Teaching Staff:

Mrs N Gardner - Head of Department
Mrs F Herbert, Mr A Magee, Miss G Baker

Examination board and syllabus:

AQA Geography

Entrance requirement: Grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography. Grade 6 in GCSE Maths and English Language. You can choose A level geography **even if you didn't study it at GCSE**. However, we would expect you to have gained a minimum of a grade 7 in Science subjects.

AQA Geography provides exciting and engaging subject content that enables students to explore popular and contemporary geographical themes and issues.

Year 12

Glacial Landscapes

- Glacial landforms and processes
- Climate change and the impact on glacial landscapes
- Human impacts on cold environments

Contemporary Urban Environments

- Patterns of urbanisation and urban forms
- Urban issues and challenges
- Living sustainability in urban areas

Changing places

- Representation of places eg songs, paintings, photography, census data
- Sense of place – place characteristics, place identity
- Study of a local place and a distant place – change over time and lived experience

Water and carbon cycles

- Water and carbon cycles with a focus on tropical rainforests
- Impact of changing carbon budgets – climate change

Year 13

NEA – Independent Investigation 20%

This will be based on residential fieldwork and day visits. Students have the opportunity to develop their own titles and conduct individual research. This will prepare them for university dissertations and the world of work.

Hazards

- Tectonic processes and hazards – volcanoes and earthquakes
- Tropical Storms
- Wildfires

Global Governance

- Globalisation and trade
- Global commons – Antarctica
- Transnational Corporations

Fieldwork

Minimum 4 days of fieldwork including a residential field trip in Y12. Fieldwork will be conducted in a range of locations, including a residential trip - previous locations have included Pembrokeshire and the Lake District. The cost of this residential trip is approximately £350.

Assessment

- There are two examinations for the A-level qualification. One paper examines physical geography and the other human geography
- In Year 13 you will also write an Independent Investigation of 4000 words. This style of assessment suits our students particularly well and enables you to investigate an area of geography you are particularly interested in.

Geography graduates gain a wide range of increasingly relevant transferable skills including knowledge of current global affairs, green skills, problem solving, synthesis, enquiry skills and geospatial data skills among many.

CAREERS

Due to the very wide range of skills developed through this subject, geography students are highly employable and the variety of careers they enter is vast.

Relevant careers to geography include: surveying/civil engineering, cartography, hydrologist, hazard management, leisure/recreation management, environmental scientist, armed forces, teaching, meteorologist, health related employment, and planning.

Also, the subject would be useful for medicine, law, personnel roles, civil service, estate agents, PR, hotel management, museum jobs, librarians, ICT, system analysts, National Trust, farming Veterinary science, nature conservation, ecologist, Environment Agency, accountancy, market research, and social work.

The skills developed throughout the course provide an excellent basis for any career and are transferable to all undergraduate degree programmes.

Geography doesn't tie you down as it can be combined with any subject