

Geography A Level

'Geography is interesting, it broadens my understanding of how different our world is. It provides me with a wide range of skills which are valued by universities and employers.'

Year 12 Student.

"This is a great age for geography. Very big questions - climate, poverty, disease, migration, water, energy, biodiversity - all demand geographical analysis, as do specific national issues in the UK, like housing, social deprivation, flooding and regional development... geography has never been so important."

Which awarding body is the course validated by and what will I get?

OCR A Level in Geography (GCE)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Geography Grade 6

What can I do with this qualification? (ie. University courses and potential career paths)

A-level is a good stepping stone to geography and geography-related degrees (geology, environmental science etc). It is also a 'facilitating' subject – regarded by Russell Group university as a good supporting subject to those required for any degree. Engineering, Geology, Finance, Careers, Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology, Climate Sciences, Archaeology, Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservationist, Disaster Management, Aid Worker, Travel & Tourism are just a few!



How will I learn?

A Level Geographers can be expected to learn the subject in a variety of ways. Students will build on skills and concepts learned in KS3 and KS4 and particularly begin to appreciate their understanding in a global, regional and local sense. Students will learn the subject through in class lessons but will also be expected to undertake a great deal of wider reading in the subject, much of which is guided by the subject teachers. Top achievers will apply their reading throughout the course.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be regularly assessed during lessons and in assessments. Students are expected to attend at least 1 residential fieldwork trip. As part of their studies, students complete an independent fieldwork investigation worth 20% of their final mark. There are 3 exams at the end of year 13 – Paper 1 & 2 are 1 hour 30. Paper 3 is 2 hour 30. Students do not sit the AS examination. Students are regularly assessed on both their knowledge and on their ability to respond to the various question formats in the exams. PLCs are available from the teachers.

Course Content

Paper 1 – Physical Systems 22%

- Coastal Landscapes
- Life Support Systems

Paper 2 – Human Interactions 22%

- Changing Spaces; Making Places
- Global Migration / Powers & Borders

Paper 3 – Geographical Debates 36%

- Disease Dilemmas
- Hazardous Earth

Independent Investigation/ NEA 20%