



Geography A Level (Edexcel)

Why study this subject?

A Level geography offers a selection of new, interesting topics not covered at GCSE level and allows you to go into greater depth in elements previously studied. It covers both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people can affect the environment.

In lesson we discuss and research current Geography. You will be able to show your understanding of a range of opinions and be able to illustrate your answers with case studies from local, national and international examples. You will learn in a wide variety of ways, using maps, GIS skills, data analysis, photos, videos, and podcasts. You will be encouraged to frame your own questions using higher level thinking skills and show your grasp of complex issues through report and essay writing. In addition to classroom sessions, you will have the opportunity to learn and develop your fieldwork skills and techniques on a residential field trip and other external opportunities, during which you will undertake activities that will enable you to write up your own personal geographical investigation.

The subject enables you to gain in depth knowledge, understanding and geographical skills through the study of characteristics and processes of the physical environment; human processes; and the interaction between people and their environment. Geography is highly valued by universities as an A Level choice, and combines well with both arts and science subjects, such as Biology and Politics.

Entry Requirements

Please see the entry requirements page on the school website.

Content

The specification is engaging through the study of contemporary geographical issues that provide students with a holistic understanding. It also supports student progression from GCSE to undergraduate Geography.



Assessment

The A Level qualification consists of the following assessments:

Paper 1 – 30% of qualification (90 marks) Section A: Tectonic Processes and Hazards Section B: Coastal Landscapes Section C: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity Section D: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Insecurity	Paper 2 – 30% of qualification (90 marks) Section A: Globalisation Section B: Regenerating Places Section C: Superpowers Section D: Health, Human Rights and Intervention
Paper 3 – 20% of qualification (60 marks) Synoptic Investigation- focus on overall geographical understanding and skills gained.	Non-exam assessment (NEA) – 20% of qualification (60 marks) Independent Investigation – Fieldwork report of 3000-4000 words.

Future courses and possible careers

Employers and universities see geography as a robust academic subject rich in skills, knowledge and understanding. As a subject linking the arts and sciences it is highly flexible in terms of what you can combine it with. If you choose to take geography on to university there are hundreds of courses to choose from and the range of career areas accessed by graduates of geography are immense. Geography opens doors to other degrees such as business and administrative studies, law, engineering and technology, and the other social physical sciences.