

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE OVERVIEW

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun!

It involves challenges associated with both physical and human environments, including how we adapt to and deal with our ever-changing world!

To succeed in Geography, you need to have a real interest in the world around us and be aware of how, as humans, we are affecting our natural environment.

You will have to think through ideas carefully, use maps accurately and synthesise information from different sources to draw informed conclusions about issues that affect our daily lives. You will also take part in two compulsory fieldtrips, in order to apply your understanding outside of the classroom (See our brand-new trip programme below!)

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The physical environment, including:

- Natural Hazards – including earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms, extreme weather and climate change
- Landscapes in the UK – including coasts and river landscapes
- The Living World – including ecosystems such as the hot deserts and those under threat, such as the rainforest

The human environment, including:

- Urban Issues and Challenges – including city growth and sustainability
- The Changing World – including economic development
- Resource Management – including managing energy resources

Geographical Skills, including:

- Evaluating a geographical issue. You will use a variety of sources to explore and write about a current geographical issue
- **Fieldwork and research skills** are a really important part of geography. It will be a brilliant opportunity to experience some of the things you have learnt about in class, see things differently and of course have fun. You will undertake two geographical enquiries based on field visits within the UK – One to the **Olympic Park in Stratford, London** and the other to **Cromer, Norfolk**.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

You will sit three exams:

Paper 1:

Physical Geography (90 minutes, 35% of the GCSE)

Paper 2:

Human Geography (90 minutes, 35% of the GCSE)

Paper 3:

Geographical Issues and Fieldwork: (75 minutes, 30% of the GCSE)

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

The GCSE deals with important and topical world issues. As such, it is a good grounding for a wide range of subjects at post 16, including, of course, Edexcel A Level Geography. Geography students acquire a unique set of geographical and practical skills developed during the course, learning to evaluate and become critical thinkers about the world around us.

Geography students develop an in-depth knowledge of how both human and physical environments work and put this into practice during a 4-day residential to Dorset. This makes them excellent candidates for careers in local government, travel, tourism, the environment and climate change. Other sectors where this subject knowledge is useful are international aid and development, logistics, sustainability and economic development.

Geography students have also used the subject to go on to study accountancy, medicine, law, computer science and many more.

“An exciting subject that is full of topics that are relevant to my life.”