

Geography

The A level course gives students the opportunity to develop an understanding of physical, human, and environmental geography. Considering current situations around the world, allowing students to question and challenge how issues develop and are dealt with.

Topics covered through the course are as follows:

Year 1:

- **Tectonic Processes and Hazards:** Students develop an in depth understanding of the causes, impacts and responses to tectonic hazards such as earthquakes and volcanoes. They will also develop an understanding of levels of risk and vulnerability relating to levels of development in different locations through case studies.
- **Regenerating places:** Students look at how urban and rural localities have changed over time and how this has affected the people who live there. They will consider techniques used to improve the quality of life of people who live in once prosperous areas which have fallen into decline. Students will study UK and international case studies to develop an understanding of the dynamics of urban and rural renewal and change.
- **Coastal Landscapes and Change:** This module involves students developing an understanding of the physical processes which go into developing our diverse and dynamic coastal environment. Students will also look at how people interact with the coastline and how we attempt to sustainably manage this delicate environment.
- **Globalisation:** This topic considers global interdependence and change, resulting in opportunities for businesses and people. They will also consider how inequalities are caused within and between countries due to shifting patterns of wealth and influence.

Year 2:

- **The water cycle:** Students learn about the physical processes which control the circulation of water. How water insecurity is becoming a global issue with serious consequences and the range of different approaches to managing water supply. Students will consider the roles and views of different stakeholders and ideas of sustainability.
- **The Carbon Cycle:** Students will develop an understanding of how physical processes control the movement of carbon between stores on land, the oceans and the atmosphere and how people affect this.
- **Superpowers:** Students will develop an in depth understanding of how human systems and geopolitics change the pattern of dominance over time. Their impact on the global economy, global politics and the environment.
- **Health, Human Rights and Intervention:** This module looks at the impact of geopolitical interventions on human health, wellbeing and human rights. They will look at reasons for some groups appearing to benefit disproportionately, and the impacts of this on global politics.
- **Independent investigation:** The student's investigation will incorporate collection of fieldwork data and conducting their own research. This is an exciting opportunity to allow students to pursue their own personal interests and produce an in depth study.

How will I be assessed?

There are three exams each is 2 hours 15 minutes in. Paper 1 and 2 are weighted at 30% each and paper 3 is weighted at 20%. The independent investigation is worth 20% of the qualification.

Teaching and Learning Methods

A wide variety of teaching and learning methods are used on this course. These include peer and group discussion, independent researching, and practical application through field work.

Fieldwork

- The course requires one physical geography fieldtrip (coastal) and one human geography fieldtrip (regeneration in London). They will also undertake a more in depth third piece of fieldwork to support their independent study.
- There is multiple opportunities to attend course enrichment lectures and a student conference run by various organisations such as the Royal Geographical Society.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Geography (at the discretion of the head of department).

Contact: For further information please contact Mrs Sparke, Head of Geography