

Why study A Level Geography?

"Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future" - Michael Palin.

There has never been a better or more important time to study A Level geography. Dealing with vital issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards, A Level geography is one of the most relevant subjects you could choose to study. Students enjoy the scope of the material they cover in geography, the insights it can provide into the world around us and the highly contemporary nature of the issues it tackles.

What will I study?

The A Level geography course is split into human and physical geography however, geography is a very fluid subject with some of the issues overlapping

In Year 12, you will study, in depth, units on: the water and carbon cycles; coastal systems and landscapes; changing places and global systems and governance. Examples and case studies will be drawn from local, national and international scales.

In Year 13, you will study population and the environment and hazards. You will use geographical skills to write an in depth geographical investigation coursework based on an aspect of geography you are interested in.

Assessment

80% examined, 20% coursework.

Component 1: Physical geography exam - a mixture of knowledge, data response and application questions together with three essay questions.

Component 2: Human geography exam - a mixture of knowledge, data response and application questions together with three essay questions.

Component 3: NEA (non-examined element) - individual geography investigation 3,000-4,000 words.

Study trips, visits and events

In Year 12 you will go on a residential trip to a Slapton Ley field study centre in Devon for a 3 day intensive course taking you through the practical skills required to plan and carry out your NEA coursework. A further 2 days of fieldwork take you into the local area to collect data for your independent study. In Year 13 there is the opportunity to take part in a residential trip abroad to Iceland where you will have the opportunity to experience unique, spectacular landscapes.

Subject entry requirements

Grade 6 in Geography if taken, or 6 in English Literature.



Student Perspective

"I like learning about geography as it's very topical, with what's going on in the world such as climate change and migration. It's also fun to study as you learn about a lot of different countries, through case studies."

Hattie, A Level Geography student

"I really enjoyed the field trips and learning outside the classroom. The teaching really helped me with my coursework."

Katie, A Level Geography student