



Geography

What will you study in Year 12?

Dynamic Landscapes

1. Tectonic processes and Hazards: looking at preparedness, management and theories in the context of volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis.
2. Coastal landscapes (including fieldwork): consideration of structure, landforms, management and local-global processes including flooding.

Dynamic Places

3. Globalisation: the key players of globalisation, interconnections of the global market, impacts on people and culture and closing the development gap.
4. Diverse Places (including fieldwork): perception of people and place, rural and urban landscapes, contrasting UK locations, population demographics (diversity).

What will you study in Year 13?

Physical systems and sustainability

5. The water cycle and water insecurity: the global and local hydrological cycle, water balance and river regimes, climate change and the causes, consequences and management of water insecurity.
6. The carbon cycle and energy security: the carbon cycle, carbon sequestration and energy security, looking at alternative fuel sources and threats to the carbon cycle such as climate change.

Human systems and sustainability

8. Superpowers: changing patterns of power and emerging superpowers, global networking, superpowers and the environment.
9. Health, Human Rights and Intervention: human development, human rights within countries and development targets and policies, geopolitical interventions.

How will you be assessed during the course?

In school

There will be regular practise exam style questions to complete in class and for homework. End of topic tests will also contribute to termly assessment grades.

External Examinations

Paper 1 (30%) Dynamic Landscapes & Physical Systems and Sustainability - 2 hours long.

Paper 2 (30%) Dynamic Places & Human Systems and Sustainability – 2 hours long.

Paper 3 (20%) Synoptic investigation – 1 hour 45 minutes long.

Independent Investigation (20%) A written report which includes independently selecting a title related to the subjects taught, carrying out fieldwork and a write up.

Where could this course lead?

Geography links well with many other subjects and develops a very wide range of transferable skills which are in demand from employers and universities alike, allowing maximum flexibility in the choice of degree courses or onward employment.

It is highly regarded as a “facilitating” (preferred) subject by all Russell Group Universities. The understanding and skills developed at A Level combine particularly well with Science subjects, Mathematics, Business and Economics, as well as with English, Politics, Modern Languages and History.

Geography as a degree choice provides opportunities in many fields including (but not limited to) education, urban, land and environmental management, travel & tourism, engineering & surveying and public services. Geography is also very highly regarded as a useful subject for careers in business.

Further information

A-level Geography is an extremely relevant course for the 21st Century. If you have an interest in the World and its future, then Geography is the subject for you! Geography deals with contemporary issues affecting people and the World, including migration, globalisation, development, urban issues, hazards, environmental issues, climate change and sustainability. Throughout this course, students will develop a critical understanding of the interactions between different groups of people and their relationship with their physical environment on a variety of scales from local to global.

Students will develop their synoptic and geographical skills across a range of topics; these descriptive, interpretative, analytical and decision-making skills will build upon skills learnt at GCSE.

Trips for fieldwork

There is a minimum legal requirement of four days of fieldwork provision and this will be delivered through a one-day trip to Newham, London in the first term of year 12 and a four-day residential trip to Pembrokeshire in the second term of year 12. This will provide you with first-hand experience of many of the topics studied in class and expertise in field investigation techniques and skills.

Exam board

Edexcel: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/geography-2016.html>

Extra-curricular

You are invited to apply for a subject captaincy role with the department. Geography subject captains run competitions and mentor younger pupils in the school.

Extension & Support

The school are subscribers of the Royal Geographic Society and daily newspapers so you are able to stay up-to-date with current affairs around the globe. It is encouraged for you to read beyond the specification and keep up to date with BBC News and other news websites. There are also wider reading resources available in the 'Geography' section of the school library. Additional support is available on Thursday lunch times at Open House.