

Geography

Qualification: GCSE

Exam Board: AQA – New Specification A

Introduction

Geography is about the world around us and the impact we have on it. We study issues of global importance that you see around you and in the news everyday. Students will gain an understanding of a number of key concepts and physical processes which explain the impact that we have on the world; uneven development; interdependence; future of the planet and sustainability. We are very pleased to be offering a course designed for the 21st CENTURY.

Course content

Students study a variety of topics which are divided into two key sections – Human Geography and Physical Geography. The topic titles are shown below.

Physical Geography

- The Restless Earth
- Rocks, Resources and Scenery
- Challenge of Weather and Climate
- Living World
- Water on the Land
- Ice on the Land
- The Coastal Zone

Human Geography

- Population Change
- Changing Urban Environments
- Changing Rural Environments
- The Development Gap
- Globalisation

Assessment

The course is assessed in 3 sections. Firstly in Year 10 students will complete a piece of fieldwork to collect their own data in order to produce a piece of coursework which is worth 25% of their overall grade. This is an excellent opportunity to secure marks prior to the summer exams. Then, there are two examination papers which will be sat in the summer of Year 11. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and worth 90 marks. These two examinations equate to the other 75% of the overall grade, 37.5% each.

Why study Geography?

Opportunities for further study and career pathways:

Many pupils will go on to study Geography at 'A' level, and every year many students go on to take the subject at University, completing either a B.A. or a B.Sc. depending on how they specialize their programme of study in either Human or Physical Geography.

Students that study GCSE Geography often benefit from the links with the Sciences and can often use the skills and knowledge gained for a foundation to 'A' levels such as Philosophy, Economics, Leisure and Tourism, Politics and Sociology as well as the more obvious Geology and Geography.

Geography develops many valuable, transferable employment skills such as the ability to investigate, analyze and evaluate issues. Geography students develop good communication skills, good organizational skills and the ability to work with others. Geographical skills are particularly valued in journalism and media, the law, engineering, business management, teaching, economic planning, marketing, leisure, recreation and tourism.

For further information contact: Andrew Hogarth (Subject Leader)