

Geography

Subject Leader: Miss V Workman
Subject Co-Ordinator: Mrs C Hughes
Exam Board: OCR
A Level

We follow the new OCR syllabus which is designed to highlight the main issues and concepts that young adults are likely to encounter in their current and future lives. Topics are examined on a local, national, and global basis; it is hoped that those who follow the course will find it most helpful in equipping them to make better-informed decisions; and also be sensitive to a wide range of viewpoints and challenges.

A Level Geography is composed of four units.

- Physical systems – students will develop an understanding and appreciation of Landscape Systems, contextualised through coastal landscapes and Earth's Life Support Systems, which encompasses the water and carbon cycles vital to our planet.
- Human interactions – students will study Global Connections, with a choice between focusing on the systems of trade or migration and the governance of human rights or sovereignty on a global scale, and Changing Spaces; Making Places, which gives learners an insight into the nature of places and the fluidity of their meanings and representations.
- Geographical debates – this unit allows students to study in depth a geographical challenge that currently faces global citizens; options include climate change, disease, food security, oceans and tectonic hazards. The heart of this component is the implications for people and the environment.
- Investigative Geography – this component allows students to undertake an independent investigation linked to any aspect of the specification to satisfy their intellectual curiosity. This component is designed to encourage students to deepen their knowledge and understanding of their chosen topic whilst developing a number of geographical and study skills relevant to Higher Education or within the world of work.

Method of Assessment:

There will be three exams at the end of Year 13 with a range of question lengths and a written report of 3000-4000 words for the Investigative Geography unit.

Geography at A Level encourages students to develop a wonder about the world that we live in. Fieldwork is a vital tool and, aside from day long investigative studies, students will have the opportunity to attend a residential fieldtrip to help to deepen their understanding of the concepts covered and develop their skills further.