

Geography

Exam Board: AQA

Contact teachers: Mr J Robinson, Mr M Misra

Why study Geography?

This course will develop students investigative skills as well as allow them to make complex links between the natural and human environment. The course encourages students to apply and develop geographical enquiry skills, understanding and knowledge acquired at GCSE. The course includes current and up to date resources, data and case study material. Students will develop and enhance numerous transferable skills, include maths and statistics.

Course details

Paper 1 Physical Geography	The examination will include a range of question types including definition type, multiple choice, structured data response, short open and extended response questions. The examination includes 9-mark and 20-mark extended writing questions. Topics covered include: Water and Carbon Cycles, Coastal Systems and Landscapes and Hazards.	40% externally assessed written examination
Paper 2 Human Geography	The examination will include a range of question types including definition type, multiple choice, structured data response, short open and extended response questions. The examination includes 9-mark and 20-mark extended writing questions. Topics covered include: Changing Places, Global Systems and Governance and Contemporary Urban Environments.	40% externally assessed written examination
Independent Investigation	Students will produce a 3000 – 4000 word investigation which identifies an issue or question to investigate. Students will then collect data for analysis and evaluation. Quantitative and qualitative data use will be required.	20% internally assessed investigation

How is the course taught and assessed?

The course is taught through a mixture of theoretical lessons and independent research. Students are expected to spend at least one hour per day researching current and past geographical events. Students will be required to participate in a minimum of 4 days' fieldwork over the two years. Regular practice exam questions and independent reports will be used to assess individual progress.

Entry requirements

Students will need to have achieved a minimum of a grade 5 in GCSE Geography. Students will also need a genuine interest in world affairs and be willing to research current and historical Geographical issues/events.

Career routes and popular combinations

Students who follow A-level Geography are equipped with a wide range of desirable qualities. The investigative nature of the course fits well with journalistic pathways or any other future that requires a high level of independent thinking. Those interested in further geographical research or working for transnational companies would also gain vital skills to widen their future opportunities.