

# A Level Geography

## What the course covers

What choosing Geography will help me understand:

- The way in which particular places and regions have evolved to be distinctive
- How to observe, describe, analyse, represent, interpret and report information about the world
- The changes and stability in human and physical worlds, including the causes, rates and patterns of change and the prediction of change to the foreseeable future
- How to evaluate arguments, problem solve and make decisions

In a world made increasingly smaller by developments in global communications and technology Geography takes on ever more importance in schools, universities, government, industry, and communications. Geography is the main subject that links the science with the arts and it offers a unique combination of skills. Any trained geographer is expected to be able to interpret photographs, maps, graphs, tables and analyse basic statistics. Employers rarely need specialists. They need bright, committed, inquisitive and determined individuals with the ability to draw on what is happening around them. As a qualification Geography is greatly respected by universities and employees alike. Geographers have an extremely high graduate employment rate.

You will be expected to attend a four day residential visit which is a compulsory part of the course, usually to the Lake District, for details on costs please speak to the Geography team.

### **Physical Geography: Water and carbon cycles, glacial systems and landscapes, hazards**

This part of the course examines the physical world. First examining how water and carbon support life and the environment of Earth. The second unit looks at the way glaciers evolve and how they shape their environments. The unit then examines both coastal and hot desert environments, looking at two very different dynamic environments. Finally this side of the course will examine a variety of natural hazards from volcanoes and earthquakes, to storms and wildfires.

### **Human Geography: Global systems and global governance, changing places, contemporary urban environments**

This part of the course focuses on how the world is shaped by the process of globalisation, focusing on the development of global markets, the role played by trans-national corporations and how attempts to create global governance through the UN have fared. This unit also examines how places have changed over time, the forces driving the constant shift in human environments and then examines how urban environments in particular have developed since 1945.

The complete specification can be viewed at [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

## What students can do with this course

Students with A Level Geography have access to a wide range of possible career and higher education opportunities. Geography is one of the facilitating subjects which means it is valued by top universities and therefore adds to any application. Geography goes well with History, Government and Politics and Economics A Levels, as well as complementing any Science A Level. You will learn and use a variety of transferable skills throughout the course. These skills are in great demand and are recognised by employers and universities as being of great value. The qualification can also lead to further training in such areas as the Environment Agency, law, teaching, accountancy, town planning and journalism.

## How this course is assessed

Physical Geography: Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, 96 marks, 40% of A Level

Human Geography: Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, 96 marks, 40% of A Level

Personal fieldwork project: Up to 4000 words, 35 marks, 20% of A Level, marked in school, moderated by AQA

## Entry requirements

All our course entry requirements are detailed in the Entry Requirements document located in the admissions section of our website.