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Welcome to the Geography Department



Staff:

- Mr Heath, Geography Subject Leader
- Miss Brown, Assistant Headteacher and teacher of Geography
- Mr Newbey, Assistant Headteacher and Geography teacher



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Our Key Stage 5 Curriculum Overview



At A Level students have the opportunity to study towards qualifications with **Edexcel**. Students will study a diverse range of topics, conduct fieldwork and complete an Independent Investigation (coursework).

*“Geography has given me a new perspective of the world. It has inspired me to take my learning further and study ecology at university.”
Year 13 Student*

Assessment outline:

Paper 1 - 30% of the qualification - 2 hours and 15 minutes

Paper 2 - 30% of the qualification - 2 hours and 15 minutes

Paper 3 - 20% of the qualification - 2 hours and 15 minutes

Independent Investigation - 20% of the qualification -
coursework



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Physical Geography - Paper 1

Area of study 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards

Area of study 2: Landscape Systems, Processes and Change - Coastal Landscapes and Change.

Area of study 3: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity

Area of study 4: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security





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Human Geography - Paper 2

Area of study 1: Globalisation

Area of study 2: Shaping places - Regenerating Places

Area of study 3: Superpowers

Area of study 4: Global Development and Connections - Health, Human Rights and Intervention





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Fieldwork

Students are required to complete a minimum of four days of fieldwork. This fieldwork relates to processes in both physical and human geography. We investigate the regeneration of **Canary Wharf, London** for our Human Geographical study (1 day trip). We investigate coastal change in **Cornwall** for our Physical Geographical study (4 day residential trip). The fieldwork will enable students to develop skills they can use in their *independent investigations* (see next slide).





Independent Investigation - coursework

- The purpose of this coursework is to test students' skills in independent investigation.
- Students are required to undertake an independent investigation that involves (but need not be restricted to) fieldwork.
- The focus of the investigation must be derived from the specification that student is studying.
- The guidance for word length is 3000-4000 words.
- The student defines a question or issue relating to the compulsory or additional content.
- The student's investigation will incorporate fieldwork data (collected individually) and own research and/or secondary data.
- The student's report will evidence independent analysis and evaluation of data, presentation of data findings and extended writing.



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do we go on lots of extra-curricular trips?

No. Unfortunately we only have time to complete our required fieldwork. Therefore, there are two trips over the two years: Cornwall (4 days) and Canary Wharf (1 day).

2. What are the benefits of studying A-level Geography?

Geography combines well with both arts and science subjects, as well as economics and business courses. It is highly valued by universities as an A-level choice. The Guardian identified Geography as the 'must have A-level'. By the time you reach your exams, you will be able to show your understanding of a range of opinions and be able to illustrate answer with a wide variety of knowledge and case studies.

3. How can Geography benefit my future job prospects?

Geography is a broad based subject which provides lots of opportunities for future progression. For example, it is the obvious choice for careers in sustainability and green issues, urban regeneration, hazard management and energy supply. For careers in the world of business, an understanding of global economies is an important part of Geography. If you are thinking of a career in law, human rights, international relation or welfare, then Geography gives you the opportunity to consider relevant issues such as: 'How do we measure development?'; 'What are the consequences of migration on societies?'



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**We look forward to meeting you in
September 2023!**