

GEOGRAPHY

Geography is a subject that combines very well with others in the curriculum and that aims to develop a range of transferable skills as well as breadth of knowledge. The Geography GCSE course brings in current geographical concerns as well as a sound grounding in key ideas.

Studying Geography at GCSE will allow you to deepen your knowledge of a range of topics drawing from physical, human and environmental aspects of the discipline.

Course Outline

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. We follow the Edexcel IGCSE Geography course which includes an interesting mix of topics such as urban issues, world development, resources and sustainability, extreme environments, coasts, rivers, and hazards to name but a few. The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions which affect our world and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

There are many ways of learning in Geography. It is very practical with opportunities to learn new skills such as modern computer based mapping (called GIS), map skills, interpreting photographs, fieldwork skills, presenting, role play and debating techniques. You will improve your literacy through your report writing and written work and make practical use of your numeracy skills when you interpret data and construct graphs.

A Place for Geography

This course is designed to equip you with many skills that are useful in other subjects and in the workplace. You will become confident at handling a variety of data sources and develop competent decision making skills through the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS). You will also understand the complexities of managing the environment and use your problem-solving skills to suggest and evaluate solutions to many problems facing our planet today.

Fieldwork Opportunities

Fieldwork is an integral part of Geography GCSE and will actively develop research skills and reinforce ideas that we cover within the classroom. All students will have the opportunity to take part in field trips to destinations in the UK such as Snowdonia and Yorkshire where you will complete contrasting geographical enquiries which are a compulsory element of the course. The department also organises an international Geography field trip every two years with a planned trip to Iceland this academic year.

Looking further into the future, the course provides an excellent basis for moving towards our new and exciting A-Level course and then onwards towards university. Geography students will be well rounded and well prepared for the challenge of A-Level courses. Geography is a broad based subject that combines well with both the arts and sciences and is well respected by employers with geographers entering a very wide range of careers.