



Head of Department: Miss K Parmar

People often ask why study geography, the answer is very simple. The science of geography is likely to be the oldest of all sciences. Geography is the answer to the question that the earliest humans ever asked, "*What's over there?*" Exploration and the discovery of new places, new cultures, and new ideas have always been basic components of geography. Thus, geography is often called the "mother of all sciences" as studying other people and other places led to other scientific fields such as biology, anthropology, geology, mathematics, astronomy and chemistry.

So if you are interested in the world around you, enjoy asking questions and understanding what is going on in the world around you, then come and study geography with us!

Curriculum

Year 9:

In Year 9 students study a broad range of themes and places, including tectonics, conflicts, cold environments and global explorations to name a few.

Year 10 & 11:

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is a hands-on, relevant and exciting subject. The GCSE course is a good mix of interesting topics such as tectonics, urban issues, world development, resource management and extreme environments. The course will give you the chance to understand some of the big questions which affect our world and to learn about key social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

Geography is an academic subject, recognised by employers and universities for its broad skill base, hence its inclusion in the English Baccalaureate. It also has a very practical side, with opportunities to learn new skills such as GIS, map skills, interpreting photographs, problem solving, and thinking skills. You will improve your literacy through written work and will make practical use of your numeracy skills when you interpret data and construct graphs.

Fieldwork, or working outside the classroom, is a really important part of geography. You will experience at least two days of fieldwork ranging from the coast to more urban



environments. In addition, the Geography Department offers an extra-curricular annual international trip, to help you develop and extend your wider world knowledge.

So if you enjoy asking questions and understanding what is going on in the world around you, then choosing GCSE Geography could be a very good option for you!

'This exciting course is based on a balanced framework of physical and human geography. It allows you as students to investigate the link between the two themes, and approach and examine the battles between the man-made and natural worlds.' AQA, 2016.

Level and Exam Board:
GCSE – AQA

Course Outline:
Find out more...

Paper 1- Living with the Physical Environment

- Section A: The Challenge of Natural Hazards- Natural Hazards, Weather Hazards and Climate Change- 33 marks.
- Section B: The Living World- Ecosystems, Tropical Rainforests and Cold Environments- 25 marks.
- Section C: Physical Landscapes in the UK- UK Physical Landscapes, Coastal Landscapes in the UK and River Landscapes in the UK- 30 marks.

Paper 2- Challenges in the Human Environment

- Section A: Urban Issues and Challenges- 33 marks.
- Section B: The Changing Economic World- 30 marks.
- Section C: The Challenge of resource management- Resource Management and Water- 25 marks.

Paper 3- Geographical Applications

- Section A: Issue Evaluation- 37 marks
- Section B: Fieldwork- 39 marks (A minimum of 2 days of fieldwork must be covered across the 2 years)



Assessment Summary:

Paper 1- Living with the Physical Environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 88 marks (including 3 for SPaG)
- 35% of final GCSE grade

Paper 2- Challenges in the Human Environment

- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 88 marks (including 3 for SPaG)
- 35% of final GCSE grade

Paper 3- Geographical Applications

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes
- 76 marks (including 6 for SPaG)
- 30% of total GCSE
- Pre-release resource booklet available 12 weeks prior to the exam paper.

Questions in all exam papers consist of: multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response and extended prose. All exams will also assess the following geographical skills: cartographic, graphical, numerical, statistical, use of qualitative and quantitative data, formulating enquiry & argument and literacy.

TRIPS/ VISITS:

Locations: One coastal (North Norfolk) and one urban (Cambridge)

Length: 2x 1 day trips (summer term Year 10 and autumn term Year 11)

Cost: Approximately £10-12 max

SUGGESTED READING:

Revision Guide (approximately £16)

Sixth Form:

[View course information](#)