



COURSE SUMMARY

This engaging and flexible course gives students the opportunity to:

- engage with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time.
- study the relationship between human populations with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global.
- consider their own role in relation to themes and issues being studied and the roles, values and attitudes of others including decision makers.
- complete geographical fieldwork and develop geographical skills – assessed as an independent investigation, developing skills that will prepare for dissertations and employment.

The specification follows an issues and impacts approach to contemporary geography.



WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

As Michael Palin said: 'Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future'.

It opens doors, not just in education, but also in life beyond school. Everything links back to geography and our planet in some way, for as David Attenborough says 'the natural world is changing and we are totally dependent on this world – it is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it'. Everyone has a part to play in geography in some way. The A Level course involves a combination and interaction of human and physical topics that caters to all students' interests and abilities. This is a most diverse subject, opening the door to a wide range of career paths.

WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

"Typical lessons range from discussions and debates to learning and questioning geographic issues as well as note taking from cutting edge articles. The field trip is the highlight of the year, being able to make new friends whilst gaining first hand field work experience, based on things we have learnt in class." *Milly*

COURSE ASSESSMENT

This is a linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two-year linear course, with all units examined at the end of Year 13.

MIGHT LEAD TO...

Geography can be an excellent preparation for a range of different academic disciplines at university. The skills developed in the A Level course are valued for a variety of courses and a variety of careers. While it has broad appeal,

the subject is clearly particularly welcome for courses and careers in environmental management, the sciences, management and administration, law and politics, business and finance, information services, leisure and tourism, social services and economics.

ADVICE ON ENTRY

Geography GCSE is not a requirement, but where students have completed the GCSE course, a Grade 5 or higher is preferred. Please note that in accordance with the curriculum, there is a compulsory residential field trip in the region of £200 and at least one compulsory day trip for NEA data collection.

"When I leave school I hope to study Geography BSc at Swansea University. I also hope to travel to experience new cultures. I studied Geography, Biology and Psychology." Grace

READING AROUND THE SUBJECT

- [TED talks](#)
- [The Guardian.com/world](#)
- [Thinking about taking A Level geography?](#)

Books

- David Waugh, Geography: An Integrated Approach
- Joel Cohen, How Many People Can the Earth Support?
- Al Gore, Earth in the Balance
- Tim Marshall, Prisoners of Geography

DVDs/Documentaries/TV

- The Inconvenient Truth
- Planet Earth I and II
- Food Inc.
- Blue Planet I and II
- Countryfile
- Frozen Planet
- Before the Flood