

Course Aims

The main aim of this course is to prepare students for their future careers and lives. The course also trains students in skills which they will draw on in other subjects across the curriculum*. Research design, data collection/ analysis, making presentations and debating difficult and controversial topics are some of the central skills the course teaches. Though maintaining a focus on the UK, the course will examine global changes in climate, the environment and economics. In certain topics, students' values, beliefs and attitudes will be both challenged and developed.

What you will study: Contemporary questions including...

- How do human communities interact with the natural environment?
- How do weather, climate and other natural processes create hazards for human populations?
- How are rivers and coastal landscapes managed, especially in a densely populated island with a high level of rainfall such as the UK?
- How are the challenges of urban (city) living going to be met in a world of ever growing population?
- How is the global economy changing and how well placed is the UK to maintain its position as one of the world's larger economies?
- Will poverty and conflict ever be brought to an end?
- Can or should the world's resources be shared out equally between people and nations?
- What process should be used to reach decisions about controversial issues, and how should disagreement be 'managed'?
- What sort of jobs can young people expect to do in the future?

As part of the course we will complete an 'Issue Evaluation' in which a topical and controversial subject will be analysed in detail prior to an examination. The subject of this will be different each year.

Fieldwork, and visits

Students are required to conduct fieldwork in the local area. Research will be conducted into human interaction with the physical environment (i.e. Ecosystems) and issues of concern in an urban environment.

**A recent survey of employers showed that after Mathematics and English, Geography is rated as one of the most useful subjects because of the number of different skills used to study the subject - this is because in businesses and organisations, issues and problems have not one cause, but many. Therefore solutions are complex. This is just like the world, its problems and solutions, which is what we study in GCSE Geography!*

The Facts

Subject	Level	Exam Board	Time Allocation	Assessment	Access to grades
Geography	GCE	AQA	3 lessons	TOTAL OF 3 ASSESSED PARTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living with the physical environment: written exam comprising 35% • Challenges in the human environment: written exam comprising 35% • Issue Evaluation and Fieldwork: Written examination comprising 30% 	9-1

Further study and future careers

Any Higher Education course is supported by geography GCSE. Careers where geography could be particularly useful include those in green-technology, travel/tourism, planning, local government, law/policing, energy and any involving dealing with environmental or social issues.

**For further information please talk to
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