

# GEOGRAPHY AS/A2

## CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Many careers value the skills from a geography A level, whether that be town planning, estate management, meteorology, environmental management or GIS. Subjects which go particularly well with Geography are Biology, Sociology, English or Maths. We are in the unusual position of being both an Arts and Scientific area of study.



## THE PROGRAMME

We study the AS and then students can progress onto the A level. At AS the students are taught water and the carbon cycle and cold environments. In the human paper they study contemporary urban environments and changing places, changing spaces. The students will also be involved in 2 days of fieldwork. Students who wish to study the full A level will be taught the above topics and in addition, global governance, population and the environment from the human elements and hazards and hot deserts in the physical element.

There is a range of teaching styles from seminars, presentations and lectures and students are expected to have an awareness of contemporary issues in the news. Both AS and A level are linear exams. The AS paper is a linear exam with two exams, each of 1 hour 30mins. Paper one is on the physical topics and the environment. Paper two examines the human elements of the course, as well as testing geographical skills, which will have been acquired on two days of fieldwork.

For the A level course there are two exams, one for the physical topics and one for the human topics, each of 2 hours 30mins. They will be a mixture of short, multiple choice questions, moving up to longer, 25 mark, extended prose questions. In addition, students must complete a piece of fieldwork consisting of a minimum of four days' work in the field. This geographical investigation will be marked in school and should be between 3000-4000 words.

## WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Studying geography allows students to have a much deeper and fuller understanding of the changing world in which they live. We teach students to question cause and effect, why issues happen and the implication on people and places and this can be as diverse as who owns Antarctica and how that wilderness can be managed to the role of water supply in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

Geography is a highly-respected, academic A level and many students who have a science bent and who study geography, have commented how valuable the written element of the course has been as they have progressed to degree level study. We aim to give our geography students the tools and curiosity to enquire and discover more about the places and spaces of this increasingly globalised world in which they live.