



# GEOGRAPHY A-LEVEL

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY A-LEVEL GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is a highly valued academic subject that bridges the art and science disciplines. It gives us a sense of place in the world and helps us to identify, understand and respond to contemporary challenges on a range of scales: local to global. Through studying Geography pupils are equipped with a range of transferable skills that are highly desired by employers and universities. It is a flexible subject that combines well with a range of courses. In the words of the former president of the Royal Geographical society, Michael Palin, "Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future. What can be more important than that?"

## WHAT WILL I LEARN ABOUT?

A-level Geography offers a breadth of Physical and Human topics drawing on the complex interconnectedness of these. The course extends prior geographical learning but also introduces interesting new topics not taught at GCSE. Tectonic hazards and Coastal Environments are studied with an emphasis on challenges as we mitigate and adapt to our dynamic landscapes, Urban Environments and Globalisation focus on the diversity within places, Health and Human Rights and Superpowers are investigated through the lens of geopolitics and Freshwater and Carbon Cycles lead to investigations of water and energy security.

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

We follow the Edexcel course which comprises of three exams: paper 1 and 2 assess the content knowledge from the units covered, paper 3 is a synoptic resource-based exam. Pupils also undertake four days of field work, including a residential trip, which prepares them to complete an independent investigation.

## WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

A-level Geography teaches pupils to develop both analytical and evaluative thinking skills. Learning through enquiry is at the heart of the course and a range of investigative skills are acquired through conducting fieldwork, using GIS (geographical information systems) and analysing cartographic and statistical data. Pupils become confident at researching and presenting information reflecting on the reliability and validity of a range of resources.

## WHERE COULD THIS SUBJECT TAKE ME IN THE FUTURE?

2021 saw the highest increase of Geography A-level entries of any subject because it is a highly desirable subject by employers, Oxbridge and Russell Group Universities. Geography A-level opens the doors for pupils who benefit from having valued awareness of the world around them, allowing them to understand the global and local context in which they will be operating.

**Exam Board:** Edexcel

