



### Overview:

This course will allow you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of places, environments, concepts, processes, interactions, and change at a variety of scales. You will need to apply knowledge and understanding in different contexts to interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information and issues. There will be an area of individual investigative fieldwork and this will be written up as a non-examined piece. This is a sizeable piece of work but is wholly defined by the student and gives a real sense of ownership.

Students will study a range of topics as varied as *Carbon and Water Cycles* through to *Human Rights*, although all areas will include elements of skills whatever the taught content. Students will need to construct arguments and draw conclusions as well as interpret and evaluate evidence; this is especially true of the debate papers.

### Expectations:

In order to prepare appropriately for classroom learning it is expected that all students will have completed the summer homework tasks. Students will need to purchase the core texts that will cover A Level study. Additional reading is also expected so that students become familiar with both traditional concepts as laid out in text books but also contemporary issues to be grappled with through reading newspapers and geographical journals, blogs, and web-sites. In order to better consolidate classroom learning, students will also be expected to add to classroom notes independently, building on arguments and developing more in depth knowledge of key theories and contentious issues. In previous years, students have also contributed to on-line forums where they are able to engage with other learners to develop their responses.

### Extra-Curricular Activities/Independent Learning Opportunities:

Co-vid permitting, Field work visits in the UK to rivers, coastline and cities are all compulsory parts of the course. We also aim to run a trip to Iceland/ Cern every other year.

### Career Pathways:

A Geography qualification will ensure you are a good communicator with strong presentation skills. You will be IT competent and able to independently research topics. You will be able to work effectively in a team in a variety of roles and manage your time. Perhaps most importantly you will be good at combining, analysing, and evaluating information from a variety of sources with excellent writing skills. The ability to synthesise information and demonstrate this through the use of well-developed literacy and numeracy skills will make you a successful candidate for careers in many areas. These include areas such as TV researchers, heritage site managers, and expedition leaders in the realms of tourism; in environmental spheres, architectural and urban planners, and environmental engineers/consultants; in business careers such as a finance risk assessors or law; working with supra-national and national organisations in global issues such as migration, terrorism, human rights, and conflict; in physical systems working as hazard prediction and prevention officers or in climatology and weather; or even in a geographic skills based arena working with groups like the military to use GIS to support operations, or as a locations analyst. All of these go alongside more general career paths for which geography is also an asset.

### Good combinations of other subjects to study with Geography are:

Geography has particularly strong links with Biology, Chemistry, and Sociology. It also has aspects of shared skills and content with subjects like Mathematics, History, RE, English, and Business/Economics.

### Student Testimonials:

*'Geography is great as it is a subject that complements so many other areas. As well as being really interesting in its own right it enhances all of the other subjects I am taught as it has a broad skills base.'*

*'It opens up the world. It encourages me to engage with issues like terrorism and conflict as well as allowing me to understand things I see daily like weather. It also builds up my confidence and enthusiasm.'*