

RMGS

GEOGRAPHY

A LEVEL (AQA)

What are the aims of the course?

Geography is a diverse and engaging subject that covers issues relevant to our world today. At A Level, the emphasis is on the inter-relationships between and within the physical and human environments.

Geography A Level aims to ensure students

- develop a knowledge of locations, places, processes and environments
- develop an in-depth understanding of physical and human geography and their interactions
- become confident and competent in selecting, using and evaluating a range of skills including fieldwork

What does it involve?

Physical geography

1. Water and carbon cycles
2. Coastal systems and landscapes
3. Hazards

Human geography

4. Global systems and global governance
5. Changing places
6. Population and the environment

You are encouraged to develop competence in a variety of practical skills to support your geographical knowledge and understanding by attending a residential fieldtrip (a minimum of **four days of fieldwork** must be completed) and to carry out a **Geography fieldwork investigation** of your own choosing.

How is it assessed?

Component 1: Physical Geography

A written exam on the three topics stated above: 2h30m, 120 marks which equates to 40% of the A-level

Component 2: Human Geography

A written exam on the three topics stated above: 2h30m, 120 marks which equates to 40% of the A-level

Component 3: Geographical investigation

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collection. 60 marks which equate to 20% of the A level.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

You must have at least a 6 in GCSE Geography.

Why is it a useful qualification?

Geography combines well with almost all other A level subjects. Geography is considered by universities as a facilitating subject. Taken with the science and Mathematics, it supports applications for almost any science based university course such as Engineering, Psychology, Environmental Sciences, Oceanography and Geology. Taken with humanities such as English, French, History or Economics, it equally supports a wide range of university course such as Law, Business, Media, Politics and Philosophy. Skills of collecting, analysing and interpreting data, communicating findings and developing links are recognised by employers and universities as being of great value.

Geography opens up a wide range of career opportunities; increasingly major UK employers are placing it alongside Economics, Business Management, Science, Mathematics and Engineering as desirable for their subject specific graduate employees. In a globalised economy employers like their employees to know how the world works. Geographers remain amongst the most employable university graduates.