

## A Level Geography

### What are the key themes in A-Level Geography?

Contemporary geography is a subject which explicitly engages with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time and their relationship with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global. Geography is a subject for our times and is constantly evolving through the themes of geopolitics, globalisation, urban change and climate change. The key themes of human and physical geography are explored, but the importance of the interconnection of these two themes is fully explored

### What topics will I learn in Geography?

Year 1:

Hazards	Coastal systems and landscapes	Changing places
The concept of hazards Plate tectonics Volcanic hazards Seismic hazards Storm hazards Fires in nature Multi-hazardous environments	The Coastal system Waves and tides Sub-aerial and marine processes Erosional features Depositional forms Sea level change Coastal management	The nature and the importance of places Relationship, connections, meaning and representation Quantitative and qualitative skills Local and distant place studies

Year 2:

Water and carbon cycles	Global systems and global governance	Contemporary urban environments
Systems in physical geography The water cycle Global atmospheric circulation Water balance Hydrographs Human influences on the water cycle The carbon cycles Carbon budget Mitigating climate change Tropical rainforests	Globalisation Global systems International trade and access to markets Global governance The global commons Antarctica as a global common Globalisation critique	Global patterns of urbanisation Urban form Megacities and world cities Urban growth and change New urban landscapes Sustainable urban development Urban micro climates.

## **How will we study Geography A-Level?**

Geography lessons will engage with the key themes and concepts of the physical and human topics. Contemporary geographical examples will be incorporated into classroom teaching and students will be encouraged to further develop understanding of these examples through independent research and study. Key geographical skills will be addressed throughout the course including; cartographical, graphical and statistical skills. Students learning will be supported by a variety of resources including online textbooks and practice assessment material, the geography review publication and university webinars. Key themes and concepts will be supported by fieldwork experiences in both a physical geography and human geography setting.

## **How will I be assessed in A-level Geography?**

Students will sit two exams at the end of the two year course. Each exam will be 2 hours 30 minutes in length and accounts for 40% of the A-level grade.

Component 1: Physical geography

Section A: Water and carbon cycles: 36 marks

Section B: Coastal systems and landscapes: 36 marks

Section C: Hazards: 48 marks

Component 2: Human geography

Section A: Global systems and global governance: 36 marks

Section B: Changing places: 36 marks

Section C: Contemporary urban environments: 48 marks

For the final 20% of the A-level students will undertake component 3 a Geography fieldwork investigation.

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

How it's assessed

- 3,000–4,000 words
- 60 marks
- 20% of A-level
- marked by teachers
- moderated by AQA

Students will be engaged in regular in-class assessments based on exam board criteria throughout the two year course.

