



A Level: Geography

Humanities

Course Facts & Figures at a glance...

Subject Leader

Mrs Wood

Course Title

A-Level Geography

QAN Code

601/8417/6

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Number of Units

4 assessed units over 2 years.

Unit Titles

4 areas of study:

Dynamic Landscapes

Dynamic Places

Physical Systems and

Sustainability

Human Systems and Geopolitics

Coursework Unit

Studying Geography contributes to a wide variety of Higher Education options and career paths. These can include areas focusing on the environment; such as meteorology, working for the Environment Agency, land surveying and town planning. Many areas of further study and employment also benefit from the human Geography aspect of the course; international development, working for the DfID or a nongovernmental organisation such as World Vision. It is also a popular choice for a teaching career. As our culture becomes more aware of global issues, the need for Geographical qualifications can only increase.

The Geography courses provide students with an exciting insight to the world in which we live from both a human and physical perspective. The course will allow students to gain a deeper understanding of key areas of Geographical study.

Topics covered include traditional aspects of Geography such as Tectonic activity and hazards, and Coastal landscapes and Change as well as more contemporary and constantly evolving Geography; for example Globalisation and Regenerating Places. There will be an ongoing focus on extending the Geographical skills of enquiry and analysis that students need during the course and that can be transferable to future studies and employment. Part of this training will use data collected from fieldwork conducted during the course in both Year 12 and 13.

There is now a requirement for students to complete a 3000-4000 word investigative assignment into an area of Geography studied during the course, using the fieldwork experienced during the course. In order to provide access to the highest quality fieldwork experiences and prepare students fully for the independent investigation, we are currently trying to organise an opportunity for students to complete a 4-day

residential course with the Field Studies Council which would be a really exciting opportunity for students. This will provide excellent grounding for further study at Higher Education, as well as a range of employment opportunities. The final aspect of the course that students will be prepared for is the need for synopticity in their answers – honing their skills of interpretation and analysis linking across all aspects of Geography, as well as perfecting their subject knowledge and understanding.

Students have been offered opportunities for foreign field trips, most recently to the West Coast of the USA, investigating issues such as living in a desert environment, tourism and coastal landforms. There are also opportunities for students studying Humanities subjects to participate in other subject area fieldtrips, such as the History trip to Poland that took place in April 2016. Students learn through a variety of mediums, including independent and collaborative work, a combination of which provide students with a comprehensive and exhilarating Geography A level.