

Geography



Exam Board
AQA

Syllabus number
7037

Geography



King's
School

*“Geography students hold the
key to the world’s problems”*

Michael Palin

Course entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Geography and Grade 5 in Mathematics.

Why should I study Geography?

You only have to catch a brief glimpse of the news to know that geography is the most relevant subject of our time. The problems of tomorrow's world are global in nature and require students to think synoptically. As such, Geography could not be a more respected and valued academic discipline. It has the advantage of having wide appeal to universities and employers, and this allows it to be combined successfully with most other A Level subjects. Students can enjoy the extremely varied content of the course and develop a wide range of analytical skills and synoptic knowledge that will serve them well at university and in the world of work. Your A Level Geography course gives you a strong foundation for understanding the two main themes of the subject: human geography and physical geography. Between them, they are what make our planet tick. It's not all theory either - you will get the opportunity to visit places of geographic interest and roll up your sleeves with some fieldwork.

What does the course look like?

- **Section A:** Physical Geography: Written Exam: 2h 30 mins 40% Water and carbon cycles; hot desert environments; coastal systems and landscapes, hazards.
- **Section B:** Human Geography: Written Exam: 2h 30 mins 40% Global systems and governance, changing places, population and the environment.
- **Section C:** Geographical Investigation: 3,000 – 4,000 words, 20%. 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 – the student largely has freedom to choose – provided a suitable fieldwork location is available. Students have to undertake a minimum of 4 days of fieldwork in order to complete their independent NEA.

How will I learn?

The course features a wide range of teaching and learning approaches and methods, from interactive classroom study to lectures, group tasks to private study and research. Being outside the classroom is an integral part to the study of Geography, and there will be a number of trips and visits to important geographical sites, such as the Jurassic Coast.

What kind of things might the subject lead me to?

If you specialise in Geography at university (or use your Geography A Level as a steppingstone to study Geology or Archaeology at university) you could find yourself working within STEM fields, doing things like charting oil wells or developing the next renewable energy farms across the world. These command a respectable wage. Geography is about the interaction between people and our planet, making this fascinating subject valid for a number of different career paths, like advertising and marketing, oceanography, international relations, hospitality, environmental management and social services. Due to its analytical nature, graduates are well placed to convert into professions such as accountancy and consultancy (BSc) or law. Combined with further master's study (MSc), students can go on to specialise further in solving the problems of tomorrow.