

# GCSE Geography – Why?



Geography is everywhere – past, present and future.

“Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world’s current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us to understand them.”

Michael Palin



# **GCSE Geography – what?**

We will follow the Edexcel A GCSE course which includes increased focus on the physical and human geography of The United Kingdom together with other countries and places from around the world. You will also learn more about the processes that shape our world and our lives in it, and current and developing issues we face.

Our study is divided into:

## **The Physical Environment**

- geology and distinctive landscapes of The United Kingdom
- coastal and river landscapes and processes
- weather hazards and climate change
- ecosystems, biodiversity and management (including tropical rainforests and deciduous woodlands)

## **The Human Environment**

- changing cities
- global development
- resource management – including the supply and management of fresh water

## **Geographical Investigations**

- two investigations on at least two days – at a river or at the coast and an urban enquiry

Throughout the course, you will learn how processes have led to our world today, about the interaction between people and environments and how we might manage sustainable development.

# **GCSE Geography – what next?**

An academically challenging GCSE, geography combines much knowledge and many skills both unique to itself and which reinforce those met in other subjects.

Most sixth-forms will expect a GCSE grade 6 or above to move on to study geography at A-level.

A geography A-level will be needed in order to study geography at degree level – or degrees linked with geography.

Many other degrees can be accessed with geography A-level linked with either arts or science based A-levels.

Geography is a subject highly regarded by a wide range of employers and geography graduates have one of the highest rates of employment six months after graduation.

# GCSE Geography – what else?



+ three exams:

- the physical environment - 37.5%
- the human environment - 37.5%
- geographical investigations - 25%

+ two days of fieldwork study in contrasting locations

+ qualification – GCSE (9-1) Geography A

+ exam board – Edexcel Geography A (1GA0)

+ scheme of work:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/geography-a-2016.html>

+ lots of different activities to help you understand, remember and apply knowledge

+ regular homework and independent study



Geographers know how the world works, can plan and carry out research and combine a variety of sources of information to reach conclusions and make informed decisions, together with many other skills needed in today's workplace – and those of the future.

