

Geography



A Level Geography at Southborough

“Geography is the subject that holds the key to our future”

Michael Palin

Why Geography?

We are constantly exposed to geographical issues in everyday life, including; environmental concerns, natural disasters, world weather, local developments, urban and rural change, population movements, maps and tourism. Students are provided with an opportunity to develop an awareness and understanding of the patterns, processes and relationships that characterise human and physical environments.

Traditionally, geography is seen as a bridge between the arts and sciences, enabling students to keep their options open. Geography also complements many AS/A2 subject combinations.

Geography at an advanced level provides a wide and varied base for entry into university and many practical professions. It can be successfully **combined with both arts and science subjects** as a foundation for higher or further education. Opportunities for geography graduates are wide-ranging and include; cartography, surveying, environmental and ecological work, teaching, travel and tourism, conservation, hazard management, meteorology, hydrology, civil engineering and town planning. These Geography provides students with an opportunity not only to develop a detailed subject-specific knowledge and understanding but also to develop proficiency in a wide range of **transferable skills**. These skills are applicable to a very wide range of potential career opportunities.

Skills developed as part of the A-level geography course at Southborough High School include:

- Data gathering and manipulation
- Enquiry work and decision making
- Independent research
- Statistical analysis
- Team work
- Essay writing
- Summarising and synthesising information
- Presentation
- ICT
- Justification and reasoning

Speaking and listening are just a few examples, see below for more suggestions!

Geography

Course Outline

Physical Paper:

40% of A-level

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

Human Paper:

40% of A-level

1. Global Systems and Global governance
2. Changing Places
3. Population and the environment

Fieldwork Investigation:

20% of A-level

Marked by your teacher—moderated by AQA

3,000-4,000 words

This is an individual investigation using data collected during their fieldwork. 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 entire course has been developed to advance students learning and bridge the gap between sixth-form and university.



Fieldwork at Southbor-

As well as supporting classroom learning by bringing theory to life, fieldwork is a compulsory component for Units 3 in which students are expected to discuss fieldwork in the context of data provided in their independent research.

We hope to offer the options of:

- A residential field trip (Year 12)
 - Conference opportunities in London as they arise (Year 12/13 as appropriate)
- A conference in London about topical geographical issues and geographical courses and careers (Year 12/13)

The department are also considering introducing fieldwork overseas, your teacher will keep you posted about any developments!

