



KIRKHAM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

GEOGRAPHY

Much present geographical thought is concerned with contemporary issues such as hazard management and population/resource concerns, even the study of world health and infectious diseases. How the world continues to develop, how the physical world has had an impact upon humans but now, more importantly, how humans are having an impact upon the physical world and consequently upon each other.

Most of the world's problems or issues have a geographical element, and an understanding of the importance of place and the links between locations is as important as ever.

The Geography course may be taken in combination with both arts, humanities and science subjects. It involves much statistical skill and analysis but these will be taught in the course and do not involve a high level of performance in Mathematics. The usual investigative and cartographic skills are also studied.

THE COURSE

The new A-level Geography course is based on the fundamental issues of the water cycle and carbon cycle before moving into a study of landform systems and global governance. Topics to study include hazards, hot deserts, migration and globalisation. There is also an emphasis on how places and spaces can and do change, as well as an important fieldwork and geographical skills element. All students are required to complete fieldwork activities and this will involve a cost. Every student must also complete an individual investigation.

The A-level course looks at aspects of both physical and human geography and has a skills and enquiry theme running through it. The course will be of interest to anyone wanting to know more about the ever-changing world around them, and links both 'arts' and 'sciences' themes. A-level Geography continues to be a fascinating and rigorous programme of study that helps prepare students for a wide variety of further study and careers.

In addition to knowledge and understanding, there is also an element of skill-based assessment and so time is taken out of school for fieldwork. This work is an integral part of the course, extending knowledge and experience, and it relates directly to the practical assessment and also to the skills needed throughout the course.

CAREERS

The overall aims of the specification are to provide the student with a greater understanding of the changing world at varying spatial and temporal scales, and even to enhance the ability to participate in and guide future change. It provides the breadth and depth of understanding necessary for students who intend to go on to a range of geography-related higher education courses or direct employment. Geography graduates do go on to employment in a genuinely wide range of areas.