

## Geography Department Details

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Geography is taught as a separate discipline in Year 7 and 8 with 3 hours per fortnight, and 2 hours per fortnight in Year 9. A wide range of contemporary human and physical topics with a focus on the development of geographical skills. Year 7 students study the Geography of the UK and the local area. Year 8 students study global issues such as globalisation and glaciation. In Year 9, students study contemporary issues such as climate change and migration.

Geography is a very popular subject choice at GCSE. Students study the Edexcel A syllabus course which includes the following topics: river landscapes and processes; weather hazards and climate change; ecosystems, biodiversity and management; changing cities; global development, resource management and UK challenges.

Geography at A level is a very popular choice, with three groups in Year 12 and three groups in Year 13. We follow the Edexcel Geography course which gives a wide range of opportunities to develop independent study and research skills, in preparation for university. Topics taught at A Level include tectonic processes and hazards, the water cycle and water insecurity, the carbon cycle and energy security, globalisation, and superpowers.

Students follow a fieldwork programme throughout their time at Oakwood Park Grammar School. In Year 7, students investigate a local village and its surrounding area. In Year 8 students carry out an environmental investigation of the local area. In Year 10 students investigate downstream changes along a river and in Year 11 students investigate the urban area of Maidstone. A varied and challenging fieldwork programme is also incorporated into A Level teaching, focusing on Kent coastal landscapes such as Dungeness and Minnis Bay as well as urban areas such as Margate and Stratford Olympic Park, London.