

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT DETAILS

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 popular subject choice at GCSE with approximately 110 students in both Year 10 and 11. 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.

We currently have 86 students studying Geography at A level, with three groups for Year 12 and two groups for 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.

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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, focussing on Kent coastal landscapes such as Dungeness and Minnis Bay as well as urban areas such as Margate and Stratford Olympic Park, London.