



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM GUIDE

GEOGRAPHY

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least grade 6 in GCSE English Language and Mathematics.

It is not necessary to have studied this subject at GCSE in order to take it at A Level.



- How can we manage increasing water insecurity?
- What processes shape our coastlines?
- Why do diverse places result in tension and conflict?
- How is our affluence affecting our health?
- Which tectonic events cause disasters?
- How is human activity changing the carbon cycle?
- Why are poor countries suffering as a result of globalisation?
- How does the treatment of people vary around the world and what can we do about it?

Geography is a hugely broad and diverse subject which attempts to make sense of our changing world. It intertwines the natural environment and the lives of people across the globe at different stages of development, and tries to manage the impacts the physical and human spheres have on each other.

Geographers will learn in a variety of ways and will use a range of different resources to inform their thinking. They will keep a close eye on current world events and regularly discuss newsworthy stories.

THE A LEVEL COURSE

In Year 12, students investigate the physical processes which shape our coastal areas, and the causes, effects and management of rising sea levels. The hydrological cycle and the increasing threat of water insecurity make up the other physical geography topics at this stage. They also study the UK's increasing diversity, comparing Nottingham to Cornwall, and develop an understanding of the issues this diversity presents. Students will also look at aspects of globalisation and how this influences levels of development globally.

In Year 13, students investigate tectonic processes and how these shape our natural landscape, and the catastrophic nature of tectonic hazards. The carbon cycle on both local and global scales are also studied, which links to energy security, an increasingly relevant issue currently being debated at governmental level. They will also develop an understanding of geopolitics; investigating the existing global superpowers, and the implications for migration, national identity and sovereignty. Throughout the course students will use a range of memorable case studies to exemplify concepts and bring their learning to life.

Geography fieldwork is a compulsory element of the course at Year 12, with a minimum of 4 days being undertaken. There is a residential field trip to the Cranedale Field Study Centre in Yorkshire where students practise fieldwork techniques and data collection methods. The cost of the trip is usually in the region of £260. This field work, combined with lessons, will prepare



students for their independent investigation. In this component they will be required to independently complete a 3000-4000 word investigation on an issue of their choice. They will be required to evidence investigative, graphical, cartographical, research and statistical skills to draw their own conclusions.

The subject is especially attractive to those who want to maintain links with the 'real world'. It combines well with arts, science or other humanities subjects. Geography arms students with a wide range of knowledge, understanding and skills which are recognised by universities and employers. Previous geographers have gone on to pursue a variety of courses and careers, including but not limited to; medicine, architecture, international relations, film and media, banking, environmental sciences, law and education. With the increasing focus on environmental issues in both the media and at governmental levels, it is only likely that Geography will prove to be an increasingly relevant qualification to have.



[Click here to watch the course introductory video from Head of Geography, Mr Steven Hawkins](#)

In order to join us in the Sixth Form, we require an average of grade 6 across eight GCSE subjects, including English and Mathematics. See individual subjects for any specific requirements for study at A Level.

For detailed course information on all of the A Level subjects please visit the AQA, Edexcel or OCR websites.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the admissions process, please call 0115 935 4444 or email admissions@not.gdst.net



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