



Geography

AQA A level Geography



Geography is the study of the systems and processes that shape our human and natural world. It is a highly respected and rewarding subject that will give you the practical skills and knowledge required to face the challenges of the future.

Topics you will study

Year 12:

Physical Geography

- **Hazards** – Worldwide hazards are becoming more frequent and more extreme. What can we do to deal with them and what impact does their devastation have on people and the environment?
- **Coastal Systems** – We live on and around some of the fastest eroding coastlines in the world. With rising sea levels and biocidal destruction of habitats, how can we protect coastal communities?

Human Geography

- **Contemporary Urban Environments:** What makes cities tick? How do the political, economic and social systems of urban areas interact to create inequality, crime, poverty, or prosperity? Why do over 3 billion people now live in towns and cities?
- **Changing Places:** What are the deep emotional connections people make to the world around them and how do they change over time? Why is identity important to people's happiness? How can culture change the nature of a place?

Year 13:

Physical Geography

- **Water and Carbon** – Global warming and resource depletion are two of the greatest challenges facing our species. How do the carbon and water cycles work, and how can we manage them sustainably?

Human Geography

- **Global systems and governance:** What are the systems of political and economic control that shape our world? What is the importance of trade, and globalisation to our future? How can we protect the few truly pristine environments left on the planet?

Why study this subject?

- You will develop a broad understanding of the anthropogenic and natural world.
- You will develop the ability to critically evaluate social, political, environmental and economic systems that affect your life and people worldwide.
- You will gain the skills to conduct independent research and write reports of the kind valued at university and in professional settings.
- You will learn to use and interpret Geographical Information Systems, such as ARCGIS which is used across numerous fields of work and study.
- Fieldtrips and primary research opportunities will develop your practical project planning and implementation skills.



Fieldtrip to Holderness Coast to study coastal processes and human geography in coastal towns. Fieldtrips to locations around Sheffield examining the urban environment.

Why study this subject at Aston?

- 100% pass rate (2024)
- Expert teachers with Masters Degree level qualifications and years of experience.
- Smaller class sizes and highly personalised support for your NEA (coursework) and fieldwork.

Assessment

Your grade will be based on two 2.5hr exams (80%) and a non-examined assessment (coursework 20%)

Paper 1: Physical

Paper 2: Human

NEA: 3000 word research project

Links particularly well with these subjects

History, Biology, Maths, Sociology, English Language and Literature, Psychology

Entry requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language or Literature (and Geography is studied). You do **not** need to have a Geography GCSE to apply.

Useful for careers in....

Geography is especially helpful for the following careers: Research, civil service, travel and tourism, information analyst, geologist, field researcher, botanist, urban planning, architecture, sustainability consultant, political researcher, journalism, energy sector, travel and transport, data analyst, outdoor instructor, and many others

