GEOGRAPHY

Why study geography?

Volcanic eruptions and tsunamis in Indonesia, hurricanes in the Caribbean, deforestation in Madagascar, megacities and newly emerging economies in Africa; global warming in Russia and migration to Europe.

This is the world that we live in.

Geography looks at the issues that are facing people in all parts of the world today and asks how they might affect you as a citizen of tomorrow's world. It allows you to find out more about how people are using and interacting with different environments, both your

own and those in other parts of the world. You will investigate issues such as will the Earth still be able to provide us with all the resources we take for granted now? Is global warming really happening? What really causes natural disasters like floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions? Why do inequalities exist across the world?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that is relevant to the future of this world and your place within it. It focuses on the environment and involves practical fieldwork outdoors looking at river or coastal landscapes and urban regeneration in East London.

What skills might I develop?

This is an ideal subject for developing a wide range of skills. You will learn how to research information from a range of sources and present it in a variety of ways, both written and in diagrams. You will get experience of manipulating data, using statistics, ICT software such as databases, spreadsheets and graphics packages. Your fieldwork will help you to develop the skills of organising your own time and working and co-operating with others. In addition to this you will also learn how to review your own work and make progress. These transferable skills will not just be useful in your study of geography, but will help you make progress in many of your other subjects too, both at GCSE level and beyond. They are also skills that are highly valued by employers, colleges and universities. A GCSE in geography is a stepping-stone towards a whole range of future job and career opportunities providing you with both the knowledge and skills needed to support you with your future ambitions.

In geography we offer the new AQA GCSE course. How is it assessed?

Paper 1	Living with the physical environment Natural hazards, The Living World and Physical Landscapes in the UK.	35%
Paper 2	Challenges in the human environment Urban Issues and Challenges, The Economic World and the Challenge of Resource Management.	35%
Paper 3	Geographical applications and skills Fieldwork analysis, decision making exercises, geographical skills.	30%

This subject is offered as a GCSE.