



# GEOGRAPHY



## *What? Where? Why? How? What if?*

*Geography is concerned with place, with seeking to understand the difference between places, people's use of the Earth and how we interact with the environment.*

### Course Content and Assessment

This specification is engaging and relevant to all our students today. It will build on knowledge from the GCSE course and offers a balance between physical, human and environmental topics. It will enable students to engage critically with real world issues and places, and to apply their own Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to make sense of the world around them.

### Specification: Edexcel

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/geography-2016.html>

LEVEL	UNIT	EXAM	TOPICS STUDIED
A-Level	Unit 1: <b>Physical Geography</b>	<i>2 hr exam in June - 30%</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tectonic processes and hazards</li> <li>• Coastal landscapes</li> <li>• The water cycle and water insecurity</li> <li>• The carbon cycle and energy security</li> <li>• Climate change.</li> </ul>
	Unit 2: <b>Human Geography</b>	<i>2 hr exam in June - 30%</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globalisation</li> <li>• Diverse places</li> <li>• Superpowers</li> <li>• Global development, human rights and intervention.</li> </ul>
	Unit 3: <b>Synoptic themes</b>	<i>1hr 45min exam in June - 20%</i>	The paper is based on different geographical issues each year. The paper challenges the student's analytical skills and engages the student in the wider reaching and more interdependent geographical themes.
	Unit 4: <b>Course work – Independent Investigation</b>	<i>Non Examined Assessment – 20%</i>	A written empirical research piece within an area of interest chosen by the student. The students define their own hypothesis, and conduct independent data collection with guidance from the teachers. Using both quantitative and qualitative techniques this piece of coursework builds an excellent basis and understanding to develop further at university level.

### Fieldwork Visits

The department runs two residential fieldtrips during sixth form. The first trip is designed to engage students in the fieldwork and subsequent independent investigation. The students will learn data collection skills and sample a variety of techniques during the trip. The trip runs in February for three days costing approximately £150. The second trip is an optional 'awe and wonder' style trip. In the past we have been to Iceland, this year the students will be heading to Sicily.

### Preferred Qualities and Qualifications

Beaumont Geographers need to be enthusiastic about the subject and have a real interest in the world around them. You need to be prepared to research and discuss complex ideas in lessons, incorporating your wider understanding of the world. The fieldwork element requires a self-starter who is motivated and capable of working independently. Literacy skills are important to assist in structuring the longer and more discursive written answers.

### Future Pathways

We have a significant number of students who go on to study Geography at university each year. Amongst those who took this path over the last two years, students went to Birmingham University, Sheffield University, Exeter University and Leeds University. Others students have successfully applied for Geography related degrees, such as, International Development, Urban Planning and Geology. Geography is a broad subject which has been identified by the Russell Group of universities as a 'facilitating subject' which may lead to you having a much wider choice of options when applying for university.