

## Notre Dame High School and Sixth Form

*'Geography explains the past, illuminates the present and prepares us for the future. What could be more important than that?' (Michael Palin)*

### Why choose to study Geography?

**There has never been a more important time to study geography.**

Geography encourages ways of seeing and thinking that make geographers eminently employable and teaches skills of teamwork, data analysis and sampling.

Geography has one of the highest graduate employment rates of any other subject. It is broad, gives breadth of study, it teaches fieldwork skills, teamwork, data analysis and it gives students a global outlook in an increasingly interdependent world...

### Why Geography at Notre Dame High School?

**Proven track record:** We are very proud of our consistent high standards and excellent results (80% A\*-C 2019, 76% A\*-C 2018, 83% A\*-C 2017, 91% A\*-C 2016).

**Supportive ethos and environment:** As a school and a department we offer a range of personalised support and guidance for all students studying at NDHS.

**Contemporary and exciting course:** We have chosen to follow the OCR Geography A-Level course which covers a range of engaging and relevant issues which challenge and inspire our students.

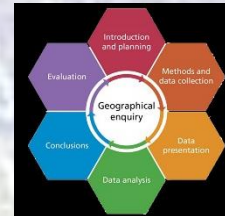
**Fieldwork opportunities:** We can offer a range of fieldwork opportunities to support and underpin key elements of the course. There are locally based day fieldtrips which are supported by residential trips to Blencathra, Lake District and Iceland (optional).

### Specification at a glance:

Component	Physical Systems	Human Interactions	Geographical Debates	Investigative Geography (NEA)
<b>Weighting</b>	22%	22%	36%	20%
<b>Time</b>	1 hour 30 minutes	1 hour 30 minutes	2 hours 30 minutes	35 hours (guideline)
<b>Marks</b>	66	66	108	60
<b>Key areas of content</b>	Landscape Systems - Glaciation  Earth's Life Support Systems	Changing Spaces; Making Places  Global Connections (Global Migration and Human Rights)	Climate Change  <b>Disease Dilemmas</b>  <b>Exploring Oceans</b>  Future of Food  <b>Hazardous Earth</b>	From any unit:  Completely independent.  Some support in choosing titles and setting up data collecitons
<b>Question styles</b>	Short answer and extended response essays	Short answer and extended response essays	Short answer and extended response essays (including synoptic questions)	Project/NEA

### Fieldwork and Geographical Skills:

Geographical skills are embedded in teaching and learning throughout the course. While much of this is delivered in the classroom, we run a 3-night residential trip to Blencathra in the Lake District. This gives students the opportunities to undertake a range of fieldwork techniques and approaches in preparation for the completion of their Non-Examined Assessment (NEA).



### Non-Examined Assessment (NEA):

As part of the course and in addition to the formally examined components, students have to complete an independent investigation or NEA. This is an enquiry based study which can be based upon any element of the A-Level specification content. It is worth 20% of the overall A-Level grade and the word limit guidance on this is 3,000-4,000 words. This is completed over the summer holidays with the deadline for hand in during the Autumn term.



### Future Career Prospects linked to Geography:

Geography is a very highly regarded subject as it covers so many important topics and issues. It is a facilitating subject to a wide range of degree courses and geographers from NDHS have gone on to study Law, Accountancy, Geology, Urban Studies and Town Planning, Electrical Engineering, Earth Sciences, Architecture, Politics, Nursing, International Tourism Management, Journalism, International Development and many more.....

### Reading:

#### OCR A-Level Geography

Authors: Raw, Barker, Harris, Palmer and Stiff  
 Publisher: Hodder Education  
 ISBN- 96781-4781-5870-3  
 Price: £28.50 (based on 20% discount 2018)

