# Spalding Grammar School Sixth Form

*Subject Information*

# Geography

## Entry Requirement:

*Grade 6 in GCSE Geography if studied **or** Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics **and** Grade 6 in GCSE English.*

**Awarding body:** OCR

**About the subject:** A *must-have* A-Level, Geography is unique in bridging the social sciences and the natural sciences, and is therefore one of the most exciting and valuable subjects to study today. Understanding contemporary global issues requires critical geographical thinking and can only be addressed by the geographers of the future. Climate change, migration, social inequality, uneven development, natural hazards, and human rights are just some of the challenges facing future generations.

Choosing Geography at A-Level can open the doors to university degrees either specifically in Geography or in other subjects. By bridging the arts and the sciences it is a great facilitating subject for anyone wanting to study mathematics, business, law, the natural or social sciences, arts or humanities.

Many employers prize both the skills and knowledge that studying Geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, report writing, working in a team, using new technologies or communication and evaluative skills. You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs: central government, town and regional planning, tourism, conservation and the environment, NGOs, international charities, technical and engineering support, and retail, to name a few. It is well documented that students with Geography qualifications become some of the most employable in our society. Studying Geography can help young people achieve careers that are professionally and financially rewarding, but also enjoyable.

## Assessment: 2 Year linear course, examined at the end of Year 13.

- **Paper 1 : Physical systems** **66 marks (90 mins)** **22 % of total A level**
  - Glaciated landscapes
  - Earth's life support systems
- **Paper 2 : Human interactions** **66 marks (90 mins)** **22% of total A level**
  - Changing Spaces, making places
  - Migration
  - Human rights
- **Paper 3 : Geographical debates** **108 marks (2hrs 30mins)** **36% of total A level**
  - Climate change
  - Tectonic hazards
- **Independent investigation:** **20% of total A level**
  - Independently written report (3000 - 4000 words) based on data collected through fieldwork

The three exam papers will consist of a combination of short answer, medium length and extended response questions and are externally assessed. Students will develop fieldwork skills in the contexts of both Human and Physical Geography and they will become proficient in a range of research and investigative skills. The specification requires a minimum of four days of fieldwork to acquire the skills necessary to undertake the independent investigation, which is internally assessed and moderated.

**Further information about the specification is available at [http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/223012-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-geography-h481.pdf](http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/223012-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-geography-h481.pdf)**

**And further information about choosing Geography can be found here: [https://www.rgs.org/geography/choose-geography/geography-at-school/](https://www.rgs.org/geography/choose-geography/geography-at-school/)**