

Geography



**GEORGE
SALTER
ACADEMY**

Overview

The Geography, Travel and Tourism Department at George Salter Academy encompasses a team of experienced teaching staff who deliver both Geography and Travel and Tourism. Geography offers students a fantastic range of learning opportunities both within and outside the classroom, with fieldtrips forming an important part of the subject ethos.

Study Support

The department offers a wide range of opportunities in order for all students to engage actively, to have exciting experiences and fulfil their potential within the subject at all key stages. There are after school homework clubs, Saturday booster sessions as well as extra lessons during school holidays.

Contact

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Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)

Geography is compulsory for all students at Key Stage 3. KS3 students have 2 lessons of Geography a week, which shows its importance in a curriculum in which 17% of lessons are dedicated to Humanities subjects. During Key Stage 3 students develop a range of Geographical skills, as well as studying human and physical geography topics, and the interactions between them. Some students will also have the opportunity to undertake a geographical skills residential.

Year 7

During Year 7, students have the opportunity to develop a range of skills through a varied programme of study, including Map Skills, Fantastic Places, Population, Coasts, Shopping and a local fieldwork study.

Trips

- Black Country Museum

Year 8

Students in Year 8 will be able to develop their skills further through the study of topics including Weather and Climate, Volcanoes, Globalisation, Crime, Ecosystems, and further offsite fieldwork opportunities. This will form a strong foundation for those who wish to continue the subject into Key Stage Four.

Trips

- Botanical Gardens

Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11)

Geography

GCSE Geography students currently follow the AQA B specification. We believe the course provides an excellent study experience of the subject and creates a strong foundation for progression to A Level AQA Geography at Key Stage 5. Topics of study include Natural Hazards, Urban Environments, Coastal Environments and Tourism. Students will also undertake a fieldwork study as part of their controlled assessment component of the course, which is worth 25% of their final GCSE Grade.

Travel and Tourism

In Travel and Tourism at Key Stage Four, Year 10 and 11 students follow either the OCR National Award in Travel and Tourism, or the GCSE Award in Leisure and Tourism, depending on their ability banding. At Key Stage 5, students follow the A Level in Applied Travel and Tourism. These courses provide the ideal foundation for those students who wish to pursue Travel and Tourism at degree level or as a career.

Year 9

Geography: In their Year 9 studies, students will focus on the topics of Earthquakes, Megacities, Water Supplies, Ecosystems and Rivers, including a local fieldwork study.

Travel and Tourism: Tourism in the UK – this involves researching different transport routes into and around the UK and investigating tourism in three different locations in the UK. Students plan an itinerary around the UK. Trip opportunities include the Peak District National Park.

Trips

Geography: Carding Mill Valley

Travel and Tourism: The Peak District National Park

Year 10

Geography: Natural Hazards, Urban Environments.

Travel and Tourism: Students study what travel and tourism is, finding examples in the UK. They also investigate the importance of excellent customer service. Trips include visits to Stratford-Upon-Avon.

Trips

Geography: Castleton

Travel and Tourism: Stratford upon Avon

Year 11

Geography: Coastal Environments, Tourism. Students will also complete the local fieldwork study component of their course.

Travel and Tourism: Students investigate how Cadbury provides for different customer types and show their own customer service skills in a range of situations. Additionally, they find examples of different promotional techniques and materials and find and comment on the promotional materials through local visits to Cadburys World and the Sea Life Centre. Finally, they develop two pieces of promotional materials and plan the marketing campaign for one of them.

Trips

Geography: Prestatyn

Travel and Tourism: Cadbury and Sea Life Centre

Exams

GCSE Geography

Exam results	2014	2015	2016
GCSE	A*-A: 21% A*-C: 81% Expected Progress: 80%	A*-A: 18% A*-C: 75% Expected Progress: 74%	A*-A: 43% A*-C: 82% Expected Progress: 81%

GCSE Travel and Tourism

Exam results	2014	2015	2016
GCSE	A*-A: 0% A*-C: 62% Expected Progress: 77%	A*-A: 60% A*-C: 100% Expected Progress: 100%	A*-A: 19% A*-C: 82% Expected Progress: 82%

Post 16

AS and A2 Geography at George Salter Academy builds upon the skills students have developed at GCSE level. We enjoy a strong uptake, and a number of students have successfully continued their study of the subject into University.

September 2016 will see the launch and first teaching of a revised AQA AS and A2 Geography specification. The new topics we believe will add a range of interesting and relevant content, as well as provide further depth and diversity that will engage students.

Fieldwork forms a fundamental part of AS and A2 Geography at George Salter. At AS and A2 Level students will undertake UK residential fieldwork courses as per the course requirements. This year, we are also looking forward to a 6 night residential to New York City.

AS

Component 1: Physical geography and people and the environment

- **Section A: either** Water and carbon cycles **or** Coastal systems and landscape **or** Hot desert environments and their margins (40 marks)
- **Section B: either** Hazards **or** Contemporary urban environments (40 marks)

This is assessed by a written exam: 1 hour 30 mins; 80 marks; 50% of AS.

Component 2: Human geography and geography fieldwork investigation

- **Section A: either** Global systems and global governance **or** Changing places (40 marks)
- **Section B:** Geography fieldwork investigation and geographical skills (40 marks)

This is assessed by a written exam: 1 hour 30 mins; 80 marks; 50% of AS

A-level

Component 1: Physical geography

- **Section A:** Water and carbon cycles
- **Section B: either** Coastal systems and landscapes **or** Hot desert environments and their margins
- **Section C: either** Hazards or Ecosystems under stress **or** Cold environments

This is assessed by a written exam: 2 hours 30 mins; 96 marks; 40% of A-level

Component 2: Human geography

- **Section A:** Global systems and global governance
- **Section B:** Changing places
- **Section C: either** Population and environment **or** Contemporary urban environments or Resource security

This is assessed by a written exam: 2 hours 30 mins; 96 marks; 40% of A-level

Component 3: Geographical investigation

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the students relating to any part of the specification content.

This is assessed by a written essay: 3,000 - 4,000 words; 35 marks; 20% of A-level; marked by teachers, moderated by AQA

Exams

Geography

Exam results	2014	2015	2016
A2 level	A*-C: 90% A*-E: 100%	A*-C: 87% A*-E: 100%	A*-C: 100%

Travel & Tourism

Exam results	2014	2015	2016
A2 level	100% A-C	100% A-C	100% A*-C