Geography

CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL
ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Course: A Level Geography

Entry Requirements: GCSE Geography at grade 5 or above and 5 grade 9-4 inc. English and Maths.

Aims of the Course:

- To excite student minds, challenge perceptions and stimulate investigative and analytical skills through the study of key human and physical processes and challenges faced by our planet in the 21st Century.
- To develop student fieldwork skills, through collection of data in human and physical environments, displaying, analysing and concluding the data.

Course Content:

The A level specification combines an equal weighting of human and physical topics and requires students to study:

Physical

- **Hazards:** Including a focus on volcanoes, earthquakes, tropical storms and wildfires, looking at their causes, effects and responses. Case studies will be examined to find patterns and effective actions.
- **Water and Carbon Cycles:** Students will examine the size and significance of hydrological processes at a range of scales. Vital changes in carbon stores will be studied in the context of tropical rainforests.
- **Coastal Systems and Landscapes**: A study of dynamic landscapes in coastal environments, including a variety of landforms along the coast, as well as methods used to manage these vulnerable areas.

Human

- **Resource Security:** A study of the distribution of energy, water and minerals and the issues associated with supply and demand of each across changing economies.
- **Global Systems and Global Governance:** A focus on the greater connectivity between people, places and environments internationally and a study of the governance, threats and protection of Antarctica.
- **Changing Places:** The use of investigative techniques to study people's engagement with places and the factors that shape this engagement at local, national and global levels. Students undertake two detailed place studies; one of Cannock, their local place and another of a contrasting area of the UK.
- **Fieldwork:** Students are required to carry out four days of compulsory fieldwork in both human and physical environments. Two days will be completed during Y12. These will be two individual day visits to different locations. Two days will be completed during Y13. These days are in preparation for the Non Examined Assessment, which makes up 20% of the final grade.

Assessment:

A Level

- Physical Geography (2 hr 30 min written examination, 40%)
- Human Geography (2 hr 30 min written examination, 40%)
- Non Examined Assessment. This is an individual investigation based on fieldwork. The title of the study is selected by the student and can be from any area of the syllabus. Work is submitted as a completed geographical investigation of 3000- 4000 words, which includes primary data collection.

Career Opportunities:

Geography supports applications for almost any science-based university course like Engineering, Psychology, Environmental Sciences and Geology; taken with humanities like English, French, History or Economics, Geography supports courses such as Business, Law, Media, Politics and Philosophy.
Geography also supports a range of apprenticeships in the green careers sector, a growing sector of the UK economy.

Contact: Mrs J Lucas

Please note, the stated information is provisional and subject to change. Updated: November 2026