

# A-LEVEL GEOGRAPHY AT WEST HATCH



*Between 2014-20 a total of 22 students have gone on to study Geography, a related degree at university, or a related higher apprenticeship!*

Geography student destinations 2014-20 include:

- Queen Mary: Geography
- Cardiff: Geography
- Sussex: Geography
- Southampton: Geography
- Royal Holloway: Geography
- Hertfordshire: Geography
- Brighton: Geography
- Loughborough: Quantity Surveying
- Loughborough: Geography & Management
- Bank of England: Apprenticeship (Degree combined)
- Core Five LLP: Apprenticeship in Quantity Surveying (Degree combined)

## Why Study Geography?

- Because you are good at it and find it interesting. **Maybe it comes 'naturally' to you—this means its for you!**
- Because you are interested in **current affairs**
- Because you want to be able to **solve problems** we face now, and will face in the future
- Because it can lead to a **wide range** of future careers
- Because it is a **facilitating subject** for Russell Group & Oxbridge universities
- All degree subjects, including Law and Medicine see the **value in Geography A level**
- The **vast range of skills** you will develop in ICT, GIS, Data analysis, research and essay writing
- Because studying geography cultivates a world view and cultural sensitivity that **makes you stand out in the labour force**
- It is now (along with Psychology) **the most employable subject**

## Why Choose West Hatch for Geography?

- Experienced and excellent teachers who are passionate about the subject **and** pupil progress
- Supportive and caring learning environment
- A course that addresses current and relevant issues
- Regular assessments, analysis and feedback
- Targeted, personalized intervention
- Two fieldwork opportunities (*\*residential, and day visits*)
- **NB: Residential trip will require a voluntary contribution. In 2020 the cost was £168 for 3 days, including food and accommodation**

## What are the Entry Requirements?

- Meet basic entry requirements to 6th form
- Grade 6 or above in Geography (or grade 6 in another GCSE and 5 in English)

*A level Geography consistently achieve 100% A\*-E grades and an average of 90+% A\*-C grades*

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## OCR Geography A-Level: Course Outline

*A Level Geography will provide a dynamic, contemporary and exciting opportunity for students to engage with the world around them. The course is designed to inspire a love of geography for lifelong learning, drawing on issues that are relevant to a student's own learning of the subject in a variety of contexts. A level Geography been designed to strengthen geographical and fieldwork skills.*

### Year 12 Topics

- Coastal Landscapes
- How place is understood & represented
- Economic change & social inequality
- Debates about climate change
- Natural Hazards
- Future of food
- Disease dilemmas

### Year 13 Topics

- Changes to Tundra and Rainforests
- Exploring Oceans
- Natural Hazards
- Trade
- Migration
- Human Rights
- Geopolitics
- Fieldwork skills

## Assessment Overview

- **Physical Systems (24%)**
  - Short, medium and extended answer questions
  - Optionality within questions
  - Resource booklet provided
- **Human interactions (24%)**
  - Short, medium and extended answer questions
  - Optionality within questions
  - Resource booklet provided
- **Geographical Debates (32%)**
  - A choice of two topics out of five
  - Short, medium and extended answer questions
  - Resource booklet provided
- **Coursework—Investigative Geography (20%)**
  - An individual independent investigation (*your own chosen research area*)
  - Coursework based on primary and secondary data
  - Based on any topic in the course

Michael Palin: 'geography students hold the key to the world's problems'



# A-LEVEL GEOGRAPHY AT WEST HATCH



## A level Geography Opens Doors...

- On average, around 30,000 students study A level Geography nationally. Of those;
- 82% go to university
- 18% go on to employment or apprenticeships

## A little note from the Royal Geographical Society to students and parents....

**Royal  
Geographical  
Society**  
with IBG

Advancing geography  
and geographical learning

Dear Parent

Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.

Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the spread of disease, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation of geographers.

A knowledge of geography, instilled into me by two excellent teachers, has enriched my life and encouraged me to take on long and sometimes difficult journeys. Geography has stimulated my mind and given me the attitude to go out and see for myself, rather than be told by others.

Choosing geography at school can open the doors to a university degree, either specifically in geography or by combining geography with other A Levels to gain a place on a degree programme in another subject. An A Level in geography is recognised for its academic 'robustness' and, most importantly, it also helps young people into the world of work.

We know this is true because so many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning research and report writing, working in a team, using new technologies and communication skills – and much more. You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs, from the City to planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities or retail. As you can see overleaf, studying geography can help young people achieve careers that are professionally and financially rewarding and also enjoyable.

Last year I was delighted to hear that more than 230,000 pupils studied a GCSE or A Level in geography. So, alongside the other subjects that your son or daughter might study, I would encourage them to choose a GCSE or A Level in geography. It meant a lot to me and it could mean a lot to them.

With best wishes

Michael Palin, CBE  
President

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