

## **Geography Department Information**

There is a strong expectation that Dame Allan's students will aim high, reach their full potential in examinations and enjoy the study and practice of geography. In 2019 the department was awarded the Geographical Association's Secondary Geography Quality Mark with Centre of Excellence status for Fieldwork.



Geography is taught as a separate subject in all key stages and lessons are 65 minutes long. In Key Stage 3 the pupils are taught in form groups and follow a scheme of work based on the Geog.123 series of textbooks. Pupils have three periods of geography per two-week cycle in Years 7 and 8 and two periods in Year 9.

In Key Stage 4, pupils study the OCR 'B' Geography GCSE specification and have five periods per two-week cycle. Geography is a very popular subject with excellent uptake at GCSE. All pupils in Key Stage 3 and 4 have access to the relevant Kerboodle digital textbook and online learning resources.

At A Level we also follow the OCR specification. Classes are co-taught by two members of staff, one responsible for human geography and one responsible for physical geography. Students have ten periods per two-week cycle in both Year 12 and Year 13. All students receive a textbook and have access to a variety of online materials to facilitate their learning.

### **Equipment and Facilities**

All students are provided with a Chromebook and staff use the G Suite application, including Google Classroom, to provide access to lesson materials and to stretch students' knowledge and understanding within and outside the classroom. Pupils can also access materials and resources using the department's website. The department is very well-resourced. Most geography teaching takes place in three adjacent classrooms and there is a shared office and work space for staff.

### **Ethos and Fieldwork**

The department comprises a strong team of five experienced subject specialists who are committed to maintaining high standards through the innovative use of new technologies for teaching and learning. There is an extensive programme of field trips and the department values the positive impact of fieldwork on student learning and their enthusiasm for geography. Every year group has at least one fieldwork day during the course of the year. Our A Level pupils enjoy the experience of a residential field trip to the Lake District in Year 12 and there is an optional residential trip for pupils in Year 11. The department runs an overseas trip every two years. Previous trips have visited different parts of Iceland with the Azores the destination for 2022.



If you have any queries, or would like to discuss the post in more detail please do not hesitate to email the Vice Principal - Academic, Mr Alan Hopper, [a.hopper@dameallans.co.uk](mailto:a.hopper@dameallans.co.uk)