



The Cardinal Wiseman School
A Level courses 2026-28

GEOGRAPHY

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in Geography **OR** a grade 5 in Maths, English Language and Science

What will I study?

With the new A Level specification in place, you will be studying a combination of human and physical Geography topics. In addition, there will be a synoptic paper focusing on the core topics and an independent investigation.

There are 5 key areas to the Edexcel A Level Geography course that students will benefit from:

- 1) Including a contemporary, issues-based approach that students enjoy. Edexcel is the only Awarding Body to integrate compulsory content and popular, familiar themes together – such as linking the water and carbon cycles to water insecurity and energy security – to ensure our courses are relevant and engaging
- 2) Students will develop a manageable and meaningful approach to fieldwork. To ensure you students can focus on exploring Geography in practice, practical examples of how to integrate teaching the required geographical and fieldwork skills into lessons.
- 3) Exams that give every student the chance to succeed. Alongside a straightforward assessment structure, there is a defined set of command words in exams are used consistently to assess particular skills and link to the same mark tariffs to make it clear what students are being asked to do
- 4) Specifications that are designed to be easy to follow and shared identical content across both physical and human Geography. The synoptic themes also help students connect common concepts between topics.
- 5) Focus on the skills at the heart of being a good geographer. There is clear signposting to show how and where quantitative and qualitative skills can be integrated into lessons.

How will this subject help me with my future career?

There are a wide range of careers linked to Geography including: Environmental Consultancy, Town Planning, Meteorology, Geology, GIS, Conservation, Transport, Law, Architecture, Business, Engineering.... the list is endless!

Edexcel A LEVEL Geography topics	
PAPER 1 (Physical)	<p>SECTION A: Tectonic Processes and Hazards</p> <p>SECTION B: Coastal Landscapes</p> <p>SECTION C: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity</p> <p>SECTION D: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security</p>
PAPER 2 (Human)	<p>SECTION A: Globalisation</p> <p>SECTION B: Diverse Places</p> <p>SECTION C: Superpowers</p> <p>SECTION D: Health, Human rights and Intervention</p>
PAPER 3	<p><u>SYNOPTIC EXAM</u></p> <p>Resource booklet issues based exam</p>
OVERVIEW	<p><u>Assessment Overview</u></p> <p>Paper 1 30%: 2 hours 15 minutes written exam</p> <p>Paper 2 30%: 2 hours 15 minutes written exam</p> <p>Paper 3 20%: 2 hours 15 minutes written exam</p> <p>Independent investigation 20%* 3,000-4,000 words</p> <p>*All students are required to complete compulsory 4 days of <i>fieldwork</i></p>