The Ridgeway St. Albans Hertfordshire. AL4 9NX

# Sandringham School



## **Geography Faculty**

#### Staff

The Geography faculty currently consists of three specialist teachers. The overriding aim of the faculty is to deliver innovative, engaging and relevant Geography. We have a collaborative approach to Schemes of Learning and resources are regularly updated. Good practise is shared regularly across the faculty via regular faculty meetings, schemes of work and a central shared resource area. Geography forms part of a wider Humanities Faculty, along with History and Philosophy, religion and ethics.

### **Accommodation**

The faculty is on the ground and the first floor of a central block with eight rooms dedicated to Humanities teaching, all are equipped with interactive whiteboards. These provide a very pleasant working environment which is beneficial for many students.

## The Geography Curriculum

## **Key Stage 3**

Geography is taught in mixed ability sets for one hour a week. The curriculum provides an excellent grounding in the subject. The Schemes of Learning are written in house and all have a focus on strong teaching and learning. Regular assessments are carried out each half term and these are level marked and tracked to ensure good progress. We deliver a wide range of topics utilising different approaches ranging from studies of areas such as Africa and China, themes such as development and conflict and traditional topics like coasts and tectonics. We believe the KS3 should be dynamic and relevant. The faculty is well resourced throughout Key Stage 3.

### **Key Stage 4**

Students are taught in mixed ability groups over five hours a fortnight. We offer the AQA specification and currently teach living with the physical environment, challenges in the human environment and geographical applications. All students are issued with a current textbook as well as a wide range of additional resources. There is a residential trip in Year 11 where we cover the content for paper 3.

### **Key Stage 5**

At Key Stage 5 the Edexcel specification is taught. Students develop a good understanding of contemporary Geography and there is a strong emphasis on independent study. Students currently study a range of topics including Coasts, The water cycle, Superpowers and regeneration. The students also are supported with their NEA. All students are issued with a current text book, which is supplemented by a wide range of additional resources. The course incorporates a residential trip to Dorset and Iceland.

Geography is a successful and popular subject. Students make good progress at Key Stage 3 and uptake to GCSE is high. We currently teach over 150 students in Years 10 and 11. Exam results are outstanding. Key Stage 5 Geography is also popular and uptake has improved significantly over recent years with over 70 students in Year 12 and 13. Results were excellent for the last two years. The ability to inspire students to study Geography and deliver outstanding results are fundamental qualities we will be seeking in the successful candidate.