

**GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT**

Geography is a strong and enthusiastic department within the School. We are always looking for ways to make Geography a living subject for our students and connect them to the many challenges facing the world. Students respond to this with outstanding work and a generally excellent attitude to learning.

The Department comprises four specialist geography teachers. It is well resourced with three dedicated classrooms as well as an office of books and resources. The classrooms were refurbished over summer 2015 and all now have new flooring, lighting, furniture and electronic whiteboards. Furthermore, the department will be moving into new premises in 2018.

The Department has a strong sharing culture in which we support one another and share lessons and ideas centrally. This allows us to draw on each other’s strengths while developing our own. We are all enthusiastic about creating an exciting curriculum for our students and creating the best learning opportunities as possible, while building our own professional practice. The School helps us to achieve that through the many personalised professional development opportunities that are available.

Students respond by describing the department as a happy and supportive one. Options numbers at GCSE and A Level this year support this.

**The Curriculum:**

**KS3:** In KS3 Geography, students develop a wide range of skills through studying a number of topics. Where possible, topics are studied by using a variety of case studies from all over the world.

At least one geographical investigation is completed each year to build students’ field work skills.

**KS4:** Geography is a popular and successful option subject at Rickmansworth School. In 2016 over 85.7% of students achieved an A\*-C grade. We follow the AQA syllabus in GCSE Geography and currently have 4 teaching groups in Y10 and 3 groups in Y11.

**KS5:** The subject is becoming increasingly popular as an A-level option with two classes in Year 12 and the results are outstanding with the department regularly achieving ALPS 2 ratings in recent years. A number of students go on to study Geography at University. We follow the AQA specification.

**Trips:** Trips are a strong part of the ethos of the department. We aim to learn outside the classroom at all years, including taking the whole of Year 7 on a walk to use their Ordnance Survey map skills and Year 9 to investigate the River Chess!

In Year 10 we support our student’s GCSE work with a trip to study the regeneration of East London and a local river study.

In Year 11 there is a 5 day trip to Iceland in October half term to see the amazing Geographical features the country has to offer.

In Year 12 we undertake a 5 day trip to North Yorkshire where the focus is on Geographical Investigations and physical geography. Students also complete fieldwork in our changing local area. Data is collected to complete the students’ Independent Fieldwork Investigation.

This role would provide an excellent opportunity for an ambitious, creative and conscientious teacher who wishes to progress with their career. We are a truly friendly and encouraging department for students and staff with a strong track record of supporting staff to achieve their best.