

Welcome to A level Geography

Before starting your A Level Geography course in September there are a number of tasks you should undertake:

1. Go on to <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037> and read through the specification content that we will be following. You can get a good overview of the course and what you will learn over the next two years.
2. Your course will be taught by two teachers, one will focus mainly on the physical geography topics whilst the other will be looking mainly at the human geography topics. The course will start with a look at the Water and Carbon cycles (physical) and Population and the environment (human). Do a basic Google search of these ideas and get ahead!
3. Be familiar with the content and layout of the following websites that will be used during the course; www.environment-agency.gov.uk www.un.org www.metoffice.gov.uk
4. Go to the Office of National Statistics (ONS) website and investigate key population trends since 2011.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Population>

Look through the data on the growth of population in the UK, our ageing population and also key migration trends. Make some notes about key facts you find out.

5. Reading! We always encourage A level Geographers to read – newspaper articles (print or online), magazine articles and books. There is a wealth of information out there that links to your new studies. The more you read, the better you write. The more variety you read, the better you can appreciate how there are many different views and opinions on the topics that matter. There are a couple of books that we would recommend you to read over the summer, both by Bill Bryson. Firstly '*A Short History of Nearly Everything*'. This is a very good popular science book that provides good background to a lot of geography! Secondly '*Notes from a Small Island*' – an interesting look at Britain and useful for the 'Changing Places' topic we cover. (You can probably buy copies very cheaply on Amazon)
6. Be prepared. For your A level studies you will require all the usual stationery and writing equipment including a calculator, ruler and a protractor.

Enjoy the rest of the summer holidays!