

Welcome to

Geography



What will you learn about in geography?

Geography at DHS truly embraces what it means to be a 21st century geographer, as our team of outstanding teachers guide students on a journey across the geophysical and socio-economic spheres in order for them to better understand their place within our world. As a regionally and nationally recognised department, we strive to achieve the very best for our students and develop them into critical thinkers and evaluative geographers. Through the collective strength of the department's geographical experience, passions and a research informed approach to teaching, we have created and continue to mould a curriculum that is effective, inspiring and exciting for our students. Our curriculum shatters harmful misconceptions about the world we live in and brings to life the connections between our student's local experiences and some of the most amazing places on the planet. Our students explore the physical geography of the Jurassic Coast and Mt Everest, scrutinise the role of Gorilla Tourism in the DRC and take on the political playing field of China. We are proud of our endeavour to develop student's global awareness and a sense of global citizenship as we delve into key issues surrounding the climate crisis, migration and globalisation. We are thrilled to enrich the classroom experiences of our students with field trips to the Dorset coast and Iceland, locations which really demonstrate the majesty of our amazing subject. Ultimately DHS geographers leave us as well-rounded global citizens, rich in the cultural capital necessary to question, innovate and succeed in any future endeavour they choose.

Why is it so important to study Geography?

As a department we look forward to the day that a Durrington student makes waves in Geography, whether this be through the intrepid exploration of some remote region of the world, innovating the means to reduce global inequality or forging a career as a climate crisis pioneer. Our world is ever changing, full of opportunities and challenges, it is dynamic, at times unjust and most certainly under threat - geographical knowledge provides our students with the tools to understand this changing landscape and navigate it successfully. As the world continues to change, it will need more and more geographers to solve the problems of today and of days to come! Young people's perception of the world, heavily influenced by the way in which it is portrayed by the media and the internet, has led to some damaging misconceptions of what our world is actually like – through our curriculum we aim to develop students who are capable of identifying bias and seeing past those harmful misconceptions, as well as being capable of balanced critique and evaluation. We also want our students to have the knowledge necessary to hold those responsible for protecting our planet and society to account. Whilst we may look forward to the day a Durrington student breaks new ground in an unexplored territory, what we don't need to look forward to is the day a Durrington student uses their knowledge to question the world around them and make an informed decision on how best to improve the world they live in both locally and globally – because that is an every-day occurrence in our lessons here at DHS.

GCSE Results 2020

Name	Entries	9 - 4 %	9 - 5 %	9 - 7 %
Geography	177	75%	64%	37%

Department Leadership



Sam Atkins

Head of Geography

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“I love geography because we learn about how diverse beautiful, and fragile our planet is. My generation have important work to do to protect and preserve the only home we have, and geography lessons give me the skills and knowledge to make sure we are successful! ”

Max, year 9