



Colchester Royal Grammar School



Geography Department

Geography throughout the school is taught by three specialist teachers. Most lessons are carried out in two centrally-located rooms, both of which are equipped with digital projectors/ smart boards, 16 integrated PCs and laptops. A department office area connects the rooms. Computers within the department are linked to the school's network. There is a range of reference books and geographical equipment available to students.

The department aims to deliver the curriculum in an enthusiastic, dynamic and modern way and staff are encouraged to develop new resources alongside highly developed schemes of work. A variety of approaches are used within lessons in order to engage students and develop their geographic knowledge and skills.

In years 7 to 9 Geography is a compulsory subject. At KS3, the scheme of work broadly follows the National Curriculum and aims to provide a wide range of factual knowledge and subject-specific skills. In years 7 and 8 (1½ per week), classes are 32 in size, while in year 9 (1½ hours), they average 25.

At GCSE level, the subject is optional and is normally chosen by 75-80% of students, taught in four groups depending on precise numbers. Classes have two hours per week teaching time and AQA Specification A is followed.

Within the sixth form approximately forty students tend to select the subject in Year 12 and AQA specification A is followed. There are two / three classes in each of the Lower and Upper Sixth which members of the department share, teaching individual units of work. Every sixth form class receives 5 hours of teaching time a week. The department runs a Geography Society and each year, a number of candidates are successful in their applications to read Geography or related subjects at university, and they receive guidance and support from subject staff.

Field study is an important and established feature of geography teaching with field work. A residential trip is part of the A level course.

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