



BRUTON SCHOOL

FOR GIRLS

ON SUNNY HILL

## Geography

Miss A Wyatt

### Academic Requirements

In order to succeed in Geography a love for the world that we live in will help you to understand the physical and human systems at work within it. Students who have obtained at least a grade B in Geography at GCSE are more likely to obtain a top A level grade. However, this is a subject where genuine enthusiasm and hard work can result in pleasing results for candidates with a wide range of abilities and backgrounds.

**Course Specification:** OCR Geography (H481); a varied course with lots of options to explore contemporary geographical issues and debates. This is a two year course.

### Course Summary:

- Landscape Systems:** Choice of Coastal, Glaciated or Dryland landscapes, learners will explore how the landscape can be viewed as system, how landforms developed within their chosen landscape and the influences of both climate and human activity on this. This will be taught through the use of case studies based on those within and outside of the UK.
- Earth's Life Support Systems:** Water and carbon are cycled between the land, oceans and atmosphere in open and closed systems, the processes within these cycles are inter-related. Forests, soils, oceans and the atmosphere all store carbon and yet they are threatened and altered by human activity, this will be examined in detail through the Tropical Rainforest and the Arctic tundra case studies as well as at a global scale. Physical changes in these cycles occur over time, from seconds to millions of years, and these changes can be seen at a range of scales, from individual plants or trees to vast ecosystems. With research and monitoring it is clear there is an increased need for global and national solutions to protect 'Earth's life support systems'.
- Human Interactions:** The Human interactions component is built around two main topics, Global Connections and Changing Spaces; Making Places. It investigates the actions, interactions and spatial patterns of people in places. The Girls' will build a



*Patrons: Mrs A Maw, Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset and Lady Gass DCVO*

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picture of how the world around them is shaped by humans, starting from the local and moving out to regional, national and international scales.

- 4. Geographical Debates:** Geographical debates takes some of the most dynamic issues the planet faces and encourages the Girls' to engage with, reflect on and think critically about them. They will gain a deep understanding of their two chosen topics, exploring the interactions between people and the environment. The options for topics are: Climate Change, Disease Dilemmas, Exploring Oceans, Future of Food, Hazardous Earth.
- 5. Individual Investigation:** Investigative geography gives learners the opportunity to undertake an independent investigation which is of particular interest to them, which can be related to any area of the specification. This involves a 5 day residential fieldtrip (please note this is an additional cost not covered by the school).

## Why Geography?

Geography is fun, and can be studied at university as an Art or Science. Graduates are extremely marketable and enter a wide range of professions, many of them not strictly geographical in content, but with a geographical basis (planning, transport, surveying, conservation/ecology, tourism, marketing, even teaching). There are opportunities to gain key skills such as ICT competency, working with others and communication skills.

## A Student's Perspective

“The lessons are really interesting and fun – I especially enjoy debating new topics with my classmates. The A level offers grounding in both human and physical geography that can be taken further.”

“One of the best aspects of the Geography course is the field trips, which always prove to be exciting.”



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