

# Geography

## What is Geography?

In third year Geography we sample a number of topics which are covered in more depth and detail within the senior phase. The course covers aspects of physical and human geography and contemporary global issues:

**The tundra ecosystem**, its climate, native people and the impact of the oil industry on the Arctic environment

**Climate change**— its causes and impact

**A study of urban life in a developing country - Rio de Janeiro in Brazil**

**Volcanoes** — A case study of Iceland, highlighting the benefits and problems of these hazards.

**The causes and impact of extreme weather**, including flooding, tornadoes and tropical storms.

**Landscapes of the British Isles**, including a study of Loch Lomond National Park, a glaciated upland area.

## Progression

From S3 Geography you can move on to National 4 to Advanced Geography  
You can also study Rural Skills up to SCQF Level 6,  
Environmental Science at National 5 and Higher  
Skills for Work: SCQF Level 5 Travel and Tourism.

## Skills Development and Careers

Geography is also an “enabling subject” which will embed the skills which are transferable into many different disciplines.

**Literacy skills:** including extended writing and report writing.

**Numeracy skills:** including data analysis and graph construction and interpretation.

**Fieldwork skills** Learners will undertake fieldwork in the local area around the school, working in small groups to assess and collect data on the local built environment. We also offer a day trip to Loch Lomond in the May of S3.

**Map interpretation:** including specialist weather and Ordnance Survey map reading skills

**Decision making and evaluation skills** on where to locate developments.

**Creative skills:** including building model wind turbines.

In S3, the National Air Traffic Services at Prestwick Airport also run a six lesson project considering the increasing demands of air transport, managing congestion and flightpaths and global positioning, which gives pupils and insight into how these skills can be applied in the real world.

Geography is a subject which opens up a wide range of career possibilities including in education; banking & finance; civil engineering; architecture & planning; emergency ; conservation; sustainable resource use; waste management and the travel, tourism and hospitality industry.

**Broad General Education  
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