

Geography's relevance to further study and careers

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Advancing geography
and geographical learning

Dear Parents or Guardians

Having studied geography myself, and now having the privilege of writing and presenting TV programmes about the geography of Britain and places further afield, I know the real benefit that studying this subject can bring.

Geography is an academically robust subject which spans the social and physical sciences and promotes a lifelong interest and fascination in how the world works.

It is part of the academic group of English Baccalaureate GCSE subjects and the Russell Group of universities has recognised A Level geography as one of their preferred 'facilitating subjects'; which supports an application into a wide range of undergraduate courses.

The knowledge and transferable skills that geographers gain from their degree studies are highly relevant to the workplace and I am delighted to say that geography graduates experience some of the lowest levels of graduate unemployment. You will find geographers working in every sector of the economy including the City, local businesses, not-for-profit organisations, leading highly relevant research or as key decision makers in local and national government.

Studying geography also helps us to understand many of the issues we face in Britain and globally, such as how we might respond to the impact of climate change or be better prepared for natural hazards. It is the new research undertaken by geographers that is informing the debate about these challenges and helping us to navigate through the world's geographically complex people, places and environments.

With rising numbers of candidates studying geography at GCSE, A Level and university there is no better time to be studying this enjoyable, exciting and highly relevant subject.

Geography is a subject that has mattered to me and has the potential to matter to everyone. So, alongside their other academic interests, I would encourage your son or daughter to choose to study a GCSE or A level in geography and I do hope they will enjoy and be successful in their future studies.

With best wishes



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