



June 2022

# Welcome to the Geography Department of Caterham School.

First, may I say how pleased I am that you are studying Geography at Caterham. I'm sure you will find the study of Geography to be interesting, thought-provoking, at times challenging and, above all, rewarding. Our students have achieved some of the best grades in the school over the past few years and I look forward to your future success.

At Caterham, we will follow the Cambridge International Examinations International A level Syllabus (9696), which has been designed to cover relevant and contemporary topics in Geography. There is a balance of Physical and Human Geography, with a good deal of emphasis on the interaction of these two areas. The details of the specification, both at AS and A2, can be found in your Learner Guides. You will study 2 Units (AS Paper 1 – Core Physical Geography and AS paper 2 – Core Human Geography) in the L6, and 2 in the U6 (A2 Papers 3 and 4 – Advanced Physical Options and Advanced Human Options).

Geography is not a subject that can be exclusively studied in the classroom, so the following is planned for the next academic year:

- 1. Geography Field Trip to South Wales – Fri 24 March - Tues 28 March 2023. This is a compulsory trip.** We believe that bringing geography to life is essential and although there is no fieldwork requirement in the syllabus, you need the experience of collecting and analyzing data. This will also act as a revision course. **Please do not organize family holidays during these dates.** The cost of this will be in the region of £180-£200.

Please note that this is the first week of the Easter holidays. Please ensure that you are in the country and available at this time.

- 2. Iceland – August 2023 (provisional)** – all geographers will get the opportunity to travel to Iceland to view the spectacular Physical Geography of the island. This is an optional fieldtrip, focusing on the 'awe and wonder' aspect of the subject. Costs are as yet unknown, but may be in the region of £1000-£1200. The trip has run in August 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019. I am hopeful that after a 3 year hiatus, we can, restart this trip this year.



There are further Enrichment opportunities for 6<sup>th</sup> Form Geographers – the Whyteleaf Partnership, Prep School Geography Quiz, Geographical Society and University Enrichment are all co-curricular schemes run by the department. Information for all of these are on Firefly INSPIRE page.

Three members of the Geography Department will teach the AS and A2 subjects: Mrs Wallace, Mrs Mesher and myself. You will be taught by two of us each year: one will teach the Human core and one the Physical core of the course, towards the sitting of the exam in May 2022.

Alongside this letter there is a Learner Guide giving a brief outline of the AS course, and some details of what we will be covering and how they will be assessed. Also, a taste of the AS course is provided. This comes directly from the CIE website giving full details of what will be covered in the course. There is also some preliminary reading for the AS course which would be useful for you to do over the Summer.

Should you have any questions, my email at the school is:

[Stuart.terrell@caterhamschool.co.uk](mailto:Stuart.terrell@caterhamschool.co.uk)

I look forward to seeing you all in September

Yours faithfully

**Stuart Terrell**  
Head of Geography