

# CAREERS

## INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

### A-Level Geography



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# WHAT SKILLS WILL I LEARN IN THIS SUBJECT?

Geography is a truly broad subject that connects the physical and human worlds. It develops a rare mix of **scientific, analytical, and communication skills**—from data analysis and GIS mapping to evaluating complex global issues. These **transferable skills** make Geography one of the most respected subjects by universities and employers alike.

- **Data & spatial analysis:** interpreting maps, satellite images, remote sensing, GIS (buffering, overlays), statistical skills (correlation, sampling, confidence). [rgs.org](https://www.rgs.org)
- **Fieldwork & investigation:** primary data collection, risk assessment, sampling strategies, coding qualitative data, report writing. [rgs.org](https://www.rgs.org)
- **Systems thinking:** Earth systems (water/carbon), feedbacks, scale, interdependence, resilience, risk.
- **Critical evaluation & decision-making:** assessing stakeholders, cost–benefit, policy trade-offs (e.g., coastal management options; energy transitions).
- **Communication & teamwork:** briefing notes, presentations, map/story-map design, community consultation.
- **Digital fluency:** spreadsheets, dashboards, GIS, remote collaboration tools; awareness of data ethics and geospatial privacy. [rgs.org](https://www.rgs.org)



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Where can Geography take you?

Geography opens doors to an incredible variety of careers. From managing natural hazards and planning sustainable cities to shaping climate policy and global business decisions, geographers work in every sector of the economy. The subject's blend of **spatial awareness, data analysis, and global understanding** means Geography graduates are in demand across **environmental, technical, financial, and public service** careers.

The following pages show how the topics taught in our A-Level Geography course can lead to a wide range of exciting and meaningful career paths.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Tectonic Processes and Hazards (Y12)

## **Catastrophe / Risk Analyst**

Analyse global natural-hazard risk for insurers using GIS and data models.

💰 £34–52k 🎓 Geography/Maths degree; insurance or risk-modelling grad schemes.

🏢 Aon, Willis Towers Watson, RMS, Lloyd's (national).

## **Emergency Planning & Resilience Officer**

Prepare and coordinate responses to major incidents across agencies.

💰 £27–46k 🎓 Geography or Public Admin; local gov/NHS grad routes.

🏢 Merseyside Resilience Forum, local councils, NHS Trusts.

## **Environmental Consultant (Ground Risk/Geomorphology)**

Assess land stability and hazards for developments.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 Geography/Geology degree or Env. Practitioner apprenticeship.

🏢 Arup (Liverpool/Manchester), WSP, Jacobs.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Coastal Landscapes and Change (Y12)

## Coastal / Fluvial Geomorphologist

Model shoreline and flood risk; design protection schemes.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 Physical Geography or Hydrology degree; MSc Flood/Coastal Eng helpful.

🏢 Environment Agency NW, Sefton Council, Jacobs.

## Marine / Coastal Planner

Plan sustainable use of marine/coastal areas and assess developments.

💰 £26–45k 🎓 Marine/Environmental Planning degree; Chartered Town Planner apprenticeship.

🏢 MMO, Natural England, Sefton Council.

## Land / Geomatics Surveyor

Collect spatial data for coasts, land and construction sites.

💰 £24–55k 🎓 Geography/Geomatics degree or Geospatial Apprenticeship (L3/L6).

🏢 Survey firms, Arup, utilities.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Water Cycle and Water Insecurity (Y13)

## Hydrologist / Water Resources Planner

Monitor rivers and model water supply and drought risk.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 Geography/Hydrology degree; MSc or water company graduate scheme.

🏢 United Utilities (Warrington), EA, WSP.

## Water Quality Scientist

Test and model water quality to meet environmental standards.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 Env. Sci/Chemistry/Geography; CIWEM training route.

🏢 United Utilities, EA, labs.

## Sustainability / ESG Analyst

Evaluate corporate performance on water, climate and sustainability.

💰 £25–40k 🎓 Geography/Sustainability degree; corporate or consultancy schemes.

🏢 United Utilities, Arup, Deloitte.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Carbon Cycle and Energy Security (Y13)

## Energy & Climate Policy Analyst

Research and advise on net-zero, carbon markets and energy systems.

💰 £31–46k 🎓 Geography/Economics/Politics degree; Civil Service Fast Stream or NGO roles.

🏢 BEIS, think tanks, United Utilities.

## Air Quality / Carbon Consultant

Model emissions and carbon impacts for infrastructure projects.

💰 £26–45k 🎓 Environmental Sci/Physics degree; IES/IAQM membership.

🏢 Arup, AECOM, WSP, councils.

## Environmental Consultant (EIA/Carbon)

Lead impact assessments for planning and sustainability.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 Geography/Env. Sci degree or Env. Practitioner apprenticeship.

🏢 Arup, Jacobs, local authorities.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Globalisation (Y12)

## Logistics / Location Analyst

Optimise transport and supply-chain networks using spatial data.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 Geography/Data/Logistics degree; CILT qualification.

🏢 Peel Ports (Liverpool), DHL, major retailers.

## Market / Geospatial Data Analyst

Use mapping and data analytics to understand markets and movement.

💰 £23–45k 🎓 Geography w/ GIS or Data Science; Geospatial Apprenticeship (L6).

🏢 Merseyside Police, NHS, Arup, retailers.

## Political Risk / Country Analyst

Assess geopolitical risk for investors and organisations.

💰 £25–50k 🎓 Geography/IR degree; MSc Geopolitics/Policy preferred.

🏢 Control Risks, banks, insurers.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Regenerating Places (Y12)

## Town / Urban Planner

Shape local development, policy and planning applications.

🏠 £26–45k 🎓 RTPI-accredited Geography/Planning degree or L7 Planner

Apprenticeship.

🏠 Liverpool City Council, private consultancies.

## Urban Regeneration Consultant

Design and evaluate regeneration and social-impact projects.

🏠 £28–50k 🎓 Geography/Planning/Urban Studies; MSc Regeneration optional.

🏠 Liverpool City Council, Arup, AECOM.

## Social / Policy Researcher

Collect and analyse data to inform regeneration or community projects.

🏠 £25–40k 🎓 Geography/Sociology; social-research training schemes.

🏠 Local authorities, think tanks, ONS.



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Superpowers (Y13)

## Political Risk / Country Analyst

Assess geopolitical risk and brief investors/governments.

 £25–50k  BA Geography/IR; MSc Geopolitics helpful; internships with risk firms.


 Control Risks, Verisk Maplecroft, banks/insurers (national).

## Energy & Climate Policy Analyst

Analyse net-zero/energy security and advise on policy.

 £31–46k  Geography/Econ/Politics; MSc Energy/Climate Policy; Civil

Service/think tanks.

 Government depts/ALBs, NGOs, consultancies, utilities (e.g., United Utilities NW).

## Environmental, Social and Governance Global Policy Advisor

Shape corporate/NGO sustainability and governance strategies.

 £30–50k  Geography/Econ; grad schemes (Big-4/consultancies) or NGO policy

routes.

 PwC, Deloitte, Arup, international NGOs (national).



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Superpowers & Migration, Identity (Y13)

## **Policy / International Development Officer**

Design/evaluate migration and development programmes; write policy.

💰 £25–45k 🎓 BA Geography/IR; MSc Development/Policy useful; Civil Service/NGO grad routes.

🏢 FCDO-related teams, UK charities/INGOs, local gov policy units.

## **GIS / Geospatial Analyst (Humanitarian/Policy)**

Map displacement, services and borders; support evidence-based decisions.

💰 £24–50k 🎓 Geography/GIS degree or Geospatial Apprenticeship (L3/L6); QGIS/ArcGIS.

🏢 Local authorities, police/NHS, consultancies; NGOs (humanitarian mapping).

## **Social / Policy Researcher**

Gather and analyse data on identity, integration and governance.

💰 £25–40k 🎓 Geography/Sociology; social-research training schemes.

🏢 Local authorities/combined authorities (e.g., LCRCA), think tanks, ONS (national).



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# WHAT CAREERS LINK TO THIS SUBJECT?

Independent Investigation (Non-Examined Assessment)/Coursework (Y12 & Y13)

## GIS / Geospatial Analyst

Analyse and visualise spatial data for environment, utilities, policing.

💰 £24–50k 🎓 Geography/GIS degree or Geospatial Apprenticeship (L3/L6).

🏢 United Utilities, councils, Arup, OS.

## Environmental Officer

Collect and analyse primary data in the field for research or regulation.

💰 £22–35k 🎓 Geography/Env. Sci degree; technician routes.

🏢 EA, councils, consultancies.

## Geography Teacher / Outreach Educator

Teach and inspire future geographers or lead field courses.

💰 DfE pay scales 🎓 Geography degree + PGCE/QTS.

🏢 Schools, FSC, museums.



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# WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

**Ask any member of the Geography Department** – we can help with subject choices, personal statements, NEA-to-career links, and work experience ideas.

## **Royal Geographical Society (RGS-IBG):**

*Choose a career with geography* (overview of routes and roles).

*Finding jobs in geography* (curated job boards by sector).

*Careers resources for schools* (flyers, posters, student guides).

**Geographical Association** – student guidance & classroom resources on geography careers.

**Prospects.ac.uk** – “What can I do with a geography degree?” (job profiles, skills, routes).



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# WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

**UCAS** – Geography subject guide & course search.

**RTPI** – planning careers and accredited routes; apprenticeship case studies.

**CIWEM** – water & environment career paths.

**Environment Agency careers** – water/flood roles and entry routes.

**GIS career explainers** – role types and sectors using GIS.



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