

A LEVEL

D

OLDC

Welcome to the  
Geography Department



Hello, my name is Mrs Wane and I am Head of Geography at OLCC.

I absolutely love Geography and I have been lucky enough to travel to some fantastic places to see it in action. I have been up Mt Etna, seen a volcano erupting, which was the most fascinating thing I have ever seen! I have also travelled to Mozambique in order to experience schools in a LIC. But you do not have to travel far, in my spare time I enjoy going up to the Lake District and also to the coastline of Cumbria.

Hi, my name is Mrs Prothero, I have taught A Level Geography at OLCC for the last 5 years. I love teaching both human and physical topics but mostly specialise in physical Geography at A Level, in particular coasts and ecosystems. In my free time I enjoy being outdoors doing activities such as mountain walking and canoeing in the Lake District.



Hi! My name is Mrs Bland.

I have taught Geography for many many years but I am still amazed and in awe of the wonderful world around us. I have been lucky to visit many places such as California where I saw the destructive power of the earth and Egypt where I snorkeled and swam with turtles and stingrays in The Red Sea and rode a horse across the Sahara Desert. So where did my love for the subject start? I was sitting with my Grandad on top of Castle Crag in the Lake District looking at the view and I asked him how did this all end up looking like this? From there I studied Geography at school and then at Liverpool University and after a brief interlude in retail and I decided to train to teach the subject that I love.



**You will have 2  
members of staff  
teaching you the  
A-level course**



# Structure of the Course

## Component 1: Changing Landscapes and Changing Places

Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

20.5% of qualification

### Section A: Changing Landscapes

Choice between two themes, **either** Coastal or Glaciated Landscapes: two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

### Section B: Changing Places

Two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

## Component 2: Global Systems and Global Governance

Written examination: 2 hours

27.5% of qualification

### Section A: Global Systems

Water and Carbon Cycles: two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

### Section B: Global Governance: Change and Challenges

Processes and patterns of global migration and global governance of the Earth's oceans: two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

### Section C: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges

One compulsory extended response question drawing on both Components 1 and 2 with resource material

## Component 3: Contemporary Themes in Geography

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes

32% of qualification

### Section A: Tectonic Hazards

One compulsory extended response question

### Section B: Contemporary Themes in Geography

Four optional themes:

- Ecosystems
- Economic Growth and Challenge: India or China or Development in an African Context
- Energy Challenges and Dilemmas
- Weather and Climate

Two essay questions chosen from these four optional themes

## Component 4: Independent Investigation

Non-exam assessment: 3000 to 4000 words

20% of qualification

One written independent investigation, based on the collection of both field data and secondary information

A piece of coursework based on an area of the specification that you choose yourself.

# Lessons at Geography A-level

## Refugees: The causes of forced migration



**Geopolitical causes in Central Africa**  
 Powerful countries, with their own agendas, also became involved in supporting different sides and prolonging the conflict (superpowers).  
 One main result/cause of instability would have been as a result of the way borders were drawn 100's of years ago by Europeans.

It was between 1945 and 1970 that many of the previously colonised African countries gained freedom from the European superpower rule. This has however led to wide spread geopolitical unrest, resulting in more than 2 million refugees being scattered across Africa.

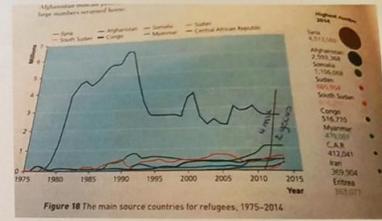
Land grab in Amazon jungle threatens dispossession, violence and murder

President Temer is courting the mining companies and their political backers by breaking into private land.



**Land grabbing**  
 Sometimes land can be taken by individuals and vulnerable groups by a powerful force and not be paid for.  
 Indigenous groups may have no actual legal FCS!  
 No literacy skills.  
 People want land for cash crops such as palm oil, sugar and biofuels.  
 Expensive exported around the world.  
 60% of Cambodia's land has been sold to companies cheaper to the trees down.

**Geopolitical causes in the Middle East**  
 Over recent years the Middle East has been the world's largest source region for refugees.  
 Interventions from world superpowers internal fighting due to borders.  
 Destabilising terrorist groups.  
 Superpowers and various oil-rich nations.



**Drought and Climate Change**  
 Sudan - conflict was exacerbated by desertification + drought.  
 Somalia + Ethiopia - have migrated to Kenya.  
 US Pentagon - accepts Syrians are so desertification.  
 The UN predicts in 30 years 30 million Bangladesh could be of rising sea levels.

Lessons at A-level include geographical skills you have learnt at GCSE, as well as preparing notes for you to use to answer exam questions.

## MANGROVES BIOTIC PROCESSES

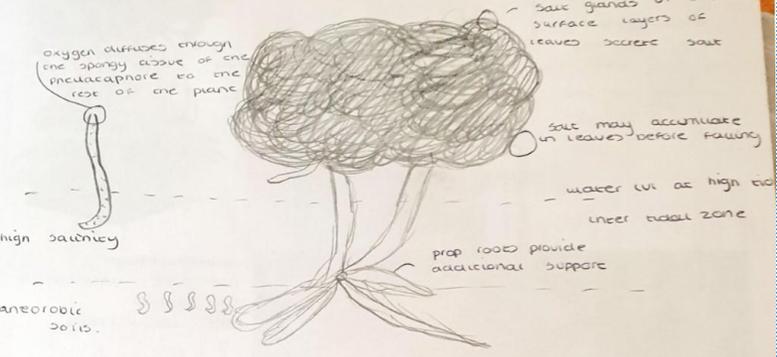
What are mangroves?  
 They are trees and shrubs that are located on the inter tidal zone. These are normally located on the tsunami prone / storm prone because they can absorb water.



Describe the distribution  
 They are distributed along the tropics near coral reefs.

## MANGROVES BIOTIC PROCESSES

How are the mangrove trees adapted to the conditions?



## The range of rural settlements with distance from a city

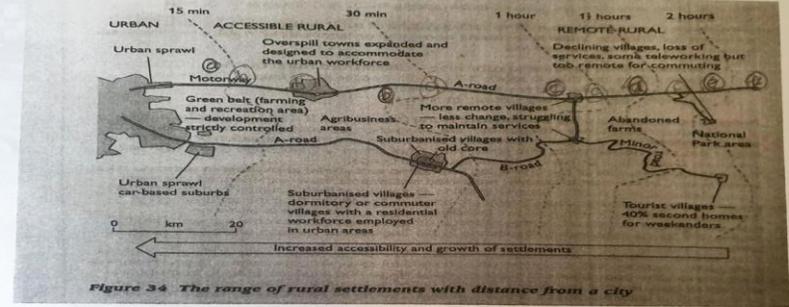
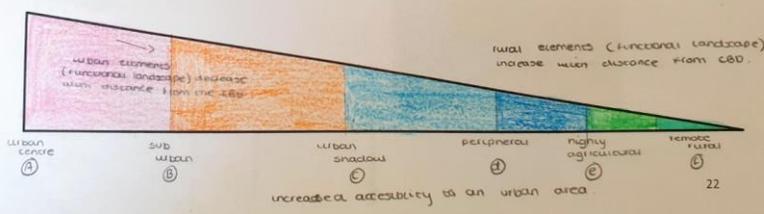


Figure 34 The range of rural settlements with distance from a city



controlling distribution?  
 latitude - they tend to only grow 30° latitude from the equator.  
 salinity - the water around the mangroves has to be a certain salt content.  
 anaerobic conditions - permanently water logged so the soil is devoid of oxygen.  
 frequent flooding  
 intense sunlight + hot weather which encourages photosynthesis.  
 limited supply of fresh water

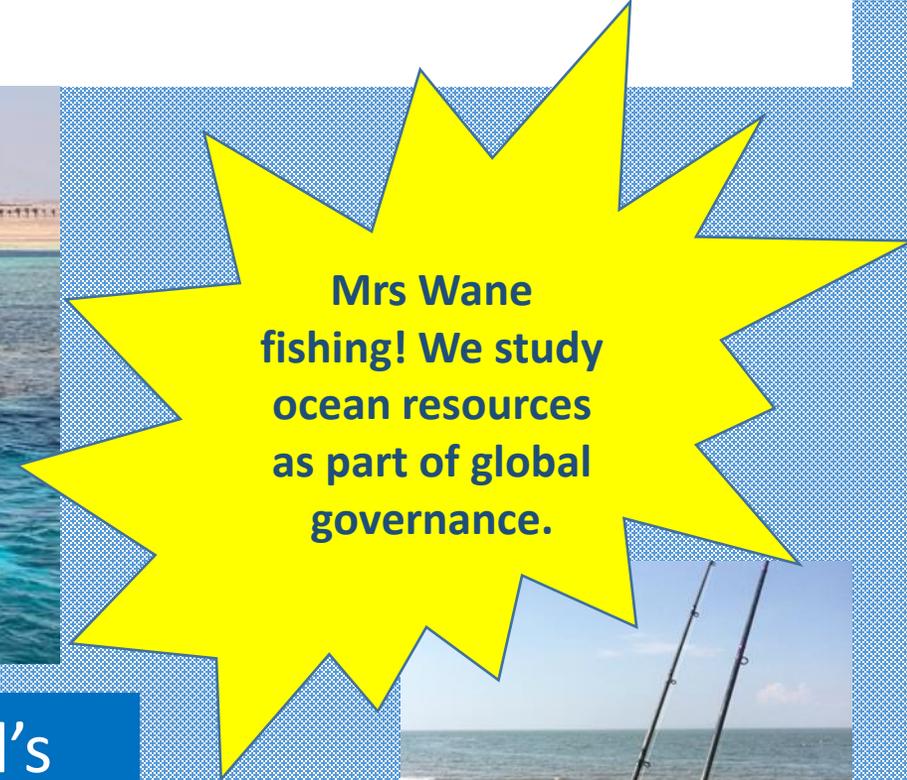
# The Geography staff like nothing more than finding real life examples of Geography.....



Mrs Prothero at Durdle Door,  
Dorset.



Mrs Bland's  
photo of a  
coral reef,  
which is part  
of coasts.





Mrs Prothero at Old Harry Rocks, Dorset, a main case study in the Coasts unit.



Mrs Wane at a beach in Cumbria. Coasts is taught in Year 12 Geography.





Mrs Prothero enjoying the Lancaster fireworks...this links to the Changing Places unit.



Mrs Wane planting a cashew nut tree in Mozambique. Development in an African Context is a unit taught in year 13.



A Tenerife ecosystem, with Mrs Prothero enjoying the sun!



Mrs Prothero canoeing on a lake in the Lake District. Bodies of water are studied as part of the Water and Carbon unit.

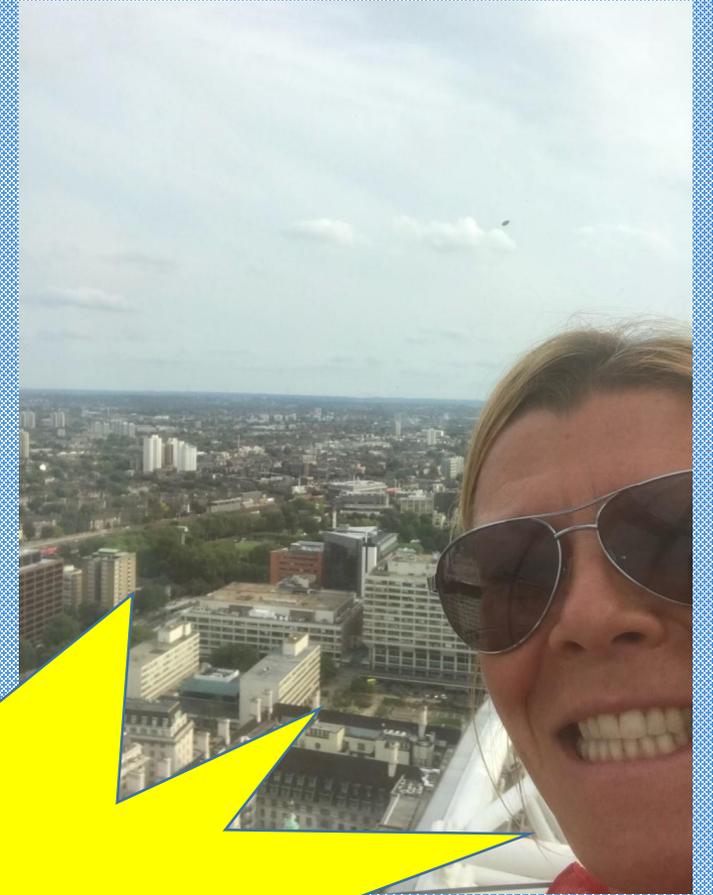
Management of ocean ecosystems is studied as part of Global Governance. Mrs Bland is lucky enough to have snorkelled there.



Mrs Wane part way up Mt Etna, Sicily. Tectonics is a unit that is taught, with Mt Etna being one of the case studies.



Coastal management techniques being photographed by Mrs Wane and Mrs Prothero. Case studies of coastal management are an important part of the coasts unit.



Mrs Bland demonstrating a sense of place which is an important part of the Changing Places unit.

# What do our current students think?

With there being small groups of students it makes it a lot easier for us to get effective feedback as well as getting any help that we may need. This is easier because the teachers are approachable and go above and beyond to help with any problems that we have, to help us reach our best potential.

(Current year 13 student)

A great subject to do, that is made even more fun and enjoyable by the teachers

(Current year 13 student)

Geography is one of my favorite subjects, its very informative. Its interesting learning about what is happening around the world.

(Current year 13 student)

I enjoy the wide range of topics that we study in our Geography A level as it is not all just maps and coasts like some would expect. I always look forward to my lessons as the teachers are always very welcoming and happy to see us. The teachers work hard to make sure that we understand everything clearly before we leave the lesson and they do not move on until we are sure about what we have just covered.

(Current year 13 student)

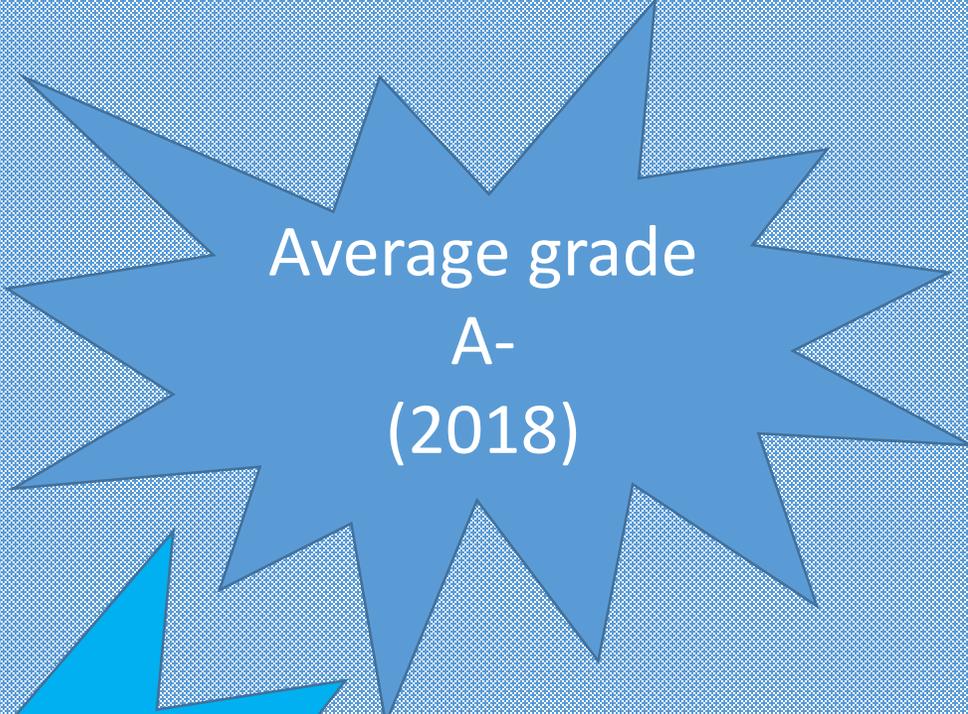
# Fieldtrips and Extra Curricular



4 days of fieldwork!  
We have been to:  
Liverpool, Formby,  
Lake District.....



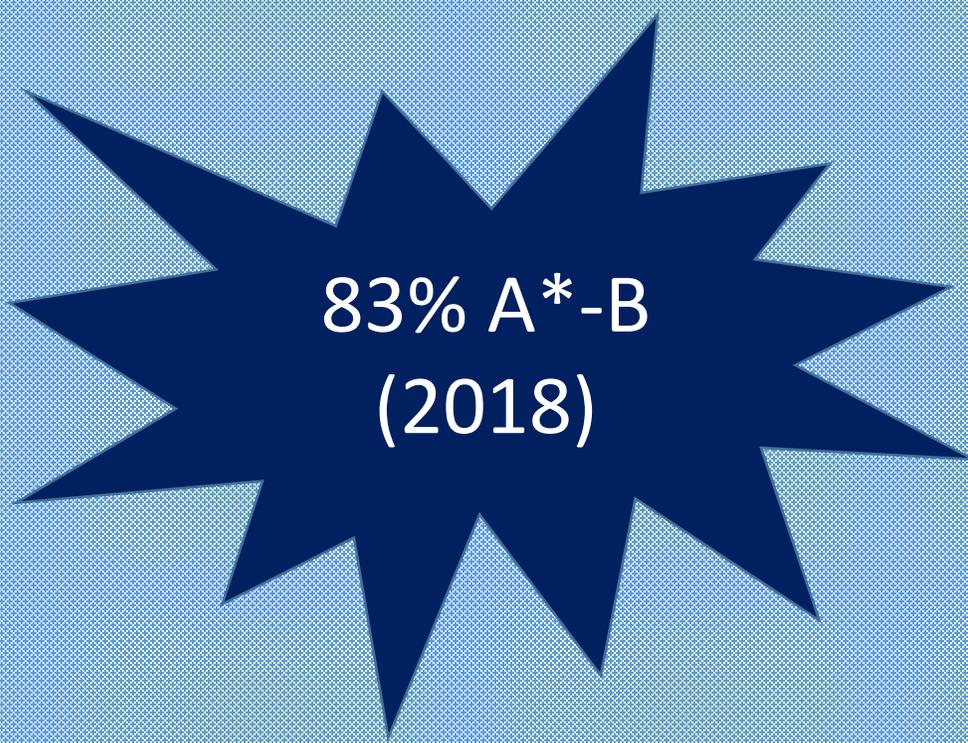
# Results



Average grade  
A-  
(2018)



100% Pass Rate  
(2018 and 2019)



83% A\*-B  
(2018)

The department offers great support to students and the results in recent years have been very positive. We can't wait to see what you achieve!

A-Z-E-V-E-L

D

O-R-C

Looking forward to meeting you!

Mrs Wane, Mrs Bland and Mrs Prothero