



## A LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

### What does the course involve?

Planet earth did not come with an owner's manual. If we are to manage it well, we need to:

- Study Earth to see how it works
- Understand how we rely on environmental resources and services for our survival
- Understand that human actions are reducing the ability of Earth to support us and other species
- Develop sustainable lifestyles.

To achieve this, we must study how the Earth and human society interact to gain a better understanding on which we can make better decisions. This is what Environmental Science is about.

Environmental Science is a multi-disciplinary subject. This means it fits well with any other combination of subjects. People from all disciplines and careers are needed to make positive changes for the world. It is only by having a clear grasp of the issues can we hope to make informed decisions and carry out decisive action.

This course aims to be objective in its approach to issues. This is especially important in areas where strong opinions exist such as nuclear power, agriculture, or wildlife conservation. The importance of such a course in not only providing a strong concept base but also in developing the ability to look at the evidence behind the headlines, cannot be underestimated.

### Course Content:

**Paper 1: The Physical Environment:** How Human Activities are interconnected with

Physical Processes in the Atmosphere, Hydrosphere, Lithosphere.

Energy Resources: Different Energy Resources, Energy Conservation

Pollution: Sources, Effects and Control of Pollutants

Research Methods: Sampling Techniques, Fieldwork, Laboratory Work

**Paper 2: The Living Environment:** Life on Earth, Biodiversity, Habitat Destruction &

Conservation Biological Resources: Agriculture, Oceans and Forests

Sustainability: Feedback Systems, Climate Change, Cycles, Circular Economy

Research Methods: Sampling Techniques, Fieldwork, Laboratory Work

**A 4-day residential field trip is a mandatory part of this course.**

### What are the entry requirements?

The minimum requirements are a 55 in Combined Science or a 5 in at least two Separate Sciences.

### What could I do after completing the course?

There is an ever-increasing awareness of the importance of environmental work across all sectors. Having this qualification can give you an advantage towards such work. It will also further your ability to make evidence-based decisions in the future.

**For further information contact Miss J Brook or Mr MJ Cook.**