

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Geography Field Trips 24th June and 25th – 27th June 2024

We are delighted that your child has opted to study A-level Geography and hope they feel settled on the course.

Fieldwork is a hugely important part of the A Level course and plays a vital role in helping them to develop analysis skills, which leads to greater confidence and success when looking at geographical issues. As well as this, fieldwork prepares students for exams as it enhances their understanding and ability to apply their knowledge.

In addition to the two exams that students sit at the end of Year 13, students must also carry out an independent research project for their coursework, making up 20% of their grade. This project requires them to develop a research question, and carry out an investigation to find evidence to answer this, and they must carry out primary data collection in the field as part of this project. To prepare students for this, the exam board stipulates that all students must attend four days of fieldwork to familiarise them with techniques they may wish to use.

We are therefore pleased to launch our fieldtrips for the Summer Term, which fulfil all requirements of the fieldwork conditions and will provide your child with the skills necessary to complete their coursework, as well as enhancing their understanding of the content they learn in class and the ability to see key geographical processes in real life. During the trips, we will be visiting a number of sites encompassing both the physical and human Geography aspects of the course, and students will have the opportunity to also collect their coursework data should they want to, eliminating the need for them to go out and collect it independently at a later stage.

Day trip to the Worcester Woods

On the 24th June 2024, we will be travelling to the Worcester Woods Country Park, to complete a study of the carbon storage in the forest and a study of the infiltration rate of the soil, as part of the Water and Carbon topic. This trip will run during the hours of the normal school day, and we will share a kit list for the day in due course.

Residential trip to Cornwall

On the 25th June 2024, we will be travelling to Cornwall, where we will stay until the 27th June. We will be staying in the YHA Eden Project Campsite, a lovely site in the grounds of the Eden Project with full shower, bathroom and washing up facilities. Students will stay in single sex tents provided by the school. We do not have sole use of the campsite, however our camp will be away from any other groups.

On Day 1, we will be visiting the Eden Project to explore the rainforest biome as part of their study of the Water and Carbon topic. We will stop at a service station in Cornwall where students will have the opportunity to purchase lunch, or if they wish to bring a packed lunch they can enjoy this here. We will then be going out for dinner in a nearby town, covered in the cost of the trip.

On Day 2, students will cook their own breakfast at the campsite, which they will have brought with them. We recommend a non-perishable breakfast like porridge, although there is also a supermarket nearby where we can pick up supplies if need be. We will be visiting a supermarket where we will buy the students' lunch, covered in the cost of the trip, before spending the day investigating the sand dunes and depositional landforms on the north coast of Cornwall as part of their Coasts topic. We will then enjoy fish and chips on the beach before returning to camp, again covered in the cost of the trip.

On Day 3, students will again cook their breakfast before we depart camp and head to Exeter, where we will investigate the perception of place in the city as part of their Changing Places Topic. Students will have the opportunity here to buy their lunch, and we anticipate returning to school in the late afternoon.

Students will therefore need to bring with them two breakfast meals, a packed lunch/spending money for lunch on Day 1, and spending money to buy lunch in Exeter on Day 3.

In advance of the trip, we will be hosting a Parents' Evening to discuss in more detail the kit requirements and logistics of the trip, which we will contact you about soon.

The cost of the four days of fieldwork is £160 per student, and covers the following;

- Return travel to the Worcester Woods
- Return travel to the campsite at the Eden Project, and to all sites whilst on the residential part of the fieldtrip
- Accommodation for 2 nights at the YHA Eden Project campsite
- Provision of all tents and cooking facilities
- Provision of all fieldwork equipment
- Entry to the Eden Project
- 1 x lunch meals
- 2 x evening meals

The Academy has added approximately 5% to the overall cost of the trip, to create a contingency fund; the price stated above include this 5% contingency. This is standard practice for educational institutions and covers areas such as administration, extra kit, specialist equipment, awards, specific 'dinner' nights, emergencies, staffing (in school time), production of pre-trip and post-trip materials and gifts. On return, if there is any money left over, the Academy will divide remaining funds amongst the pupils and refund appropriately.

Payment

The cost of this trip will be £158, and a non-refundable deposit of £15 is due by the 18th February, with full payment required by the 17th April 2024. This can all be made on ParentPay.

Deposit	£15	By <u>Monday 18th February 2024</u> (This is non-refundable).
Payment 2	£143	By <u>Monday 17th April 2024</u>

This is a compulsory trip for all students studying Geography A Level. Students who are unable to take part cannot get this part of the course signed off and will not be able to complete the A Level, and it is therefore important to get in contact with us if there is any reason why your child cannot attend.

If you wish to discuss any further details, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss L Free – Lead Teacher of Geography

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Re: 2024 Year 12 Field Trip

I do / do not consent to my child taking part in the Year 12 fieldtrips to the Worcester Woods and to Cornwall.

Student's Name:

Parent Signature: Date:

- ☐ I understand that the non-refundable deposit cannot be refunded.

Please return to Miss L Free.