



Friday 14 February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of the completion of the coursework element of A Level Geography, we intend to take Year 12 on a residential fieldtrip to a Geography fieldwork academy centre located in Southwold, Suffolk. The purpose of this trip is to plan, carry out and begin to analyse fieldwork data which is for their independent fieldwork investigation; this is worth 20% of their A Level.

We will leave school at 7.45am on Monday 9 June 2025 and arrive back at approximately 6.00pm on Wednesday 11 June 2025.

On day one there will be an introduction to the issues within Southwold. These will range from the impact of climate change, coastal management, gentrification, changing places and the impact of geology on coastal recession. Students will experiment with new forms of data collection during the fieldwork and develop a sense of place in the town and on the beach. In the evening, students work independently to design their fieldwork titles and aims. Students will create their own bespoke fieldwork data collection booklets.

On day two students will carry out their data collection and in the late afternoon are taught a session demonstrating GIS and the application of statistical tests to their data collected.

On the final day, students have a second opportunity to gather data from Southwold, based on their refinements from the evening before. We will endeavour to be with all students for some parts of the day but at other times they will not be under direct supervision and will be collecting data in pairs of groups of three and four. Within this time they will have a contact number should they need to speak to a member of staff.

The cost will be £200 per student, which includes the expertise of the tutors at the fieldwork academy, equipment hire, transport, accommodation and breakfast. We will be staying at a holiday site called Heathside holidays which is located on the outskirts of a village called Wenhaston, a few miles from the town of Southwold, the postcode is IP19 9EU. We will be staying in the glamping pods found at this site, with three students sharing each pod. Each pod has a toilet and shower, a small kitchen, sofa, table, four chairs and TV and Wifi. Students will need to bring their own bedding, including a pillow and pillowcase, a duvet and duvet cover, bed sheet (or sleeping bag if preferred). They will also need to bring their own plate, bowl, cup and cutlery. The teachers will provide breakfast on Tuesday and Wednesday morning therefore students will also need to bring their own spending money for purchasing lunch and dinner for the time we are there, as well as for any additional things they might want to purchase, approximately £50 should be sufficient.

I would be grateful if you could pay £50 by Friday 31 March 2025 with the second payment of £75 due by Wednesday 30 April 2025 and the final payment of £75 to be paid by Friday 30 May 2025, alternatively, please feel free to pay the full total. Please go to www.parentpay.com to pay and complete the permission and contact details for your child to attend. Should you require financial support please do contact us to discuss what support may be available. Please note that once you have committed to a trip all deposits and monies paid will be non-refundable should your child withdraw from the trip.

It is advisable that students do not take valuables on this trip. However, if it is necessary, please ensure that your own insurance covers such items.

Educational site visits are an additional opportunity for students to support their learning. Should we have any concerns regarding a student's behaviour, either prior to or in the time between signing up to the trip, that student will be withdrawn from the trip and individual parents will be notified accordingly. Any monies paid will be non-refundable.

A further letter will be sent in the Summer term with final arrangements for this residential fieldtrip, it is a lovely location and a fieldtrip for which we always look forward to. I hope these arrangements meet with your approval. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Ashton (Head of Geography)