



ABINGDON

From: Mr Ian Fishpool : Head of Geography

7 September 2012

Dear parents

Upper Sixth Geography Field Trip to Studland Bay

First of all I feel I must congratulate your sons on some fantastic AS results this summer, they have certainly placed themselves in a strong position for their A2 examination next summer.

As part of the A2 course your son will need to complete a unit called *Geographical Skills*. This unit represents 20% of the marks next summer. Essentially they will be tested on skills and techniques used in the field whilst conducting a geographical enquiry. They will be expected to collect, analyse, interpret, evaluate and draw conclusion from data they have collected.

We intend to run a very short UK based fieldtrip, as we have in previous years, to conduct a geographical enquiry to act as a template for this part of the course and to provide our students with some first hand experience in the field. We will expect them to write up the enquiry but it does not form part of the formal examination process. The act of completing the write up is the learning experience that will be extremely useful to their examination next summer.

Details of the Field Trip: Studland Sand Dunes, Dorset.
Dates: Sunday, 7 October – Monday, 8 October.

We aim to leave Sunday morning – 10.00am. so as to arrive in Studland by lunchtime. In the afternoon we intend to undertake a familiarization exercise of the study area and revision of the fieldwork techniques.

Overnight accommodation: Brenscombe Outdoor Centre. (www.brenscombeoutdoor.co.uk)
- we are booked in on a full board basis. Packed lunches will be supplied for Monday.

Monday: we aim to collect the data in the sand dunes, both am and pm, followed by our return journey to Abingdon, where I hope to arrive by mid-evening. The cost of the trip will be £76.00, this includes all accommodation, meals and transport.

Although I cannot make this trip compulsory, it is fair to say that I will expect students to attend. Your son will be severely disadvantaged in his A2 work if he were to miss this opportunity and experience. There is no alternative provision available in Abingdon. As there is a charge for this fieldtrip, should you find payment difficult please contact me and I do have some limited alternative funds to draw upon.

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Please return the Parental Consent slip to me, via your son or by post or email, by Wednesday 26 September 2012.

Having finished on a fairly formal note I would add that fieldwork is usually great fun and the students do enjoy it! If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me, e-mail is usually the best method.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Fishpool
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