



# The Kings of Wessex Academy

Getting the best out of everyone

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As part of the new AQA AS Geography course, students are required to carry out compulsory fieldwork to collect and analyse data for Section B of their Unit 2 Exam. This geographical fieldwork investigation will not only help students to develop skills that are assessed in both the Unit 1 and Unit 2 exams but it will also enable students to put classroom theory into practice and will extend their geographical knowledge for both of their exam papers.

The residential fieldwork will run from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 and will be based at Slapton Ley Field Studies Centre in Devon. Students will need to be in school by 8.45am on Wednesday and will be returned to school at approximately 4.30pm on Friday, traffic dependent. They are required to bring sensible clothing i.e. appropriate footwear (walking boots/wellies) and warm clothing with waterproof layers (trousers/coat). We also advise at this time of year that they bring warm socks, hats and very thick gloves.

## Programme:

**Wednesday:** Students will leave school at approximately 9am and arrive in Plymouth at lunchtime. They will be introduced to the centre staff and given a brief outline of the fieldwork for the afternoon. Students will visit a variety of locations in Plymouth to collect data linked to the Changing Places Unit. On return to the Field Studies Centre, students will have their evening meal and a tour of the facilities. They will then spend the evening completing a session in the laboratory where they will analyse qualitative and quantitative data collected in Plymouth. They will also prepare for the fieldwork taking place on Thursday.

**Thursday:** Students will carry out a fieldwork investigation into coastal environments. Students will travel along the beautiful Start Bay coastline to gain an understanding of this coastal system, including its inputs, outputs, energy, stores and flows. The coastal area is within walking distance of the centre and students will collect quantitative and qualitative data including annotated maps and photos, beach profiling, cost-benefit analysis and impacts of changing climates. In the evening, time will be spent in the laboratory presenting, analysing and writing up results, using statistical skills and geo-spatial technology.

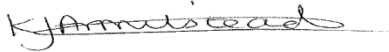
**Friday:** After breakfast, students will spend time in the laboratory finalising their investigations and evaluating the success of the investigations in preparation for their exam. Students will be taken through the different geographical skills they will be assessed on in their exam and they will practise applying these skills to numerous past paper exam questions. Students will then depart from the Field Studies Centre after lunch, at approximately 1pm and then return to school for approximately 4.30pm, traffic dependent.

The cost of the trip is £195.30 and whilst we appreciate the expense of the trip, the price does include tailored tuition sessions led by highly experienced staff; full board accommodation at the Field Studies Centre; use of all of the centre facilities and equipment; and transportation to, from and around the centre. A packed lunch will need to be provided for the first day only. The full cost must be paid by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**. For your convenience, you can pay in instalments up until this date or you can pay in one payment before or on this date. We will accept cash, cheques or internet payments. Cheques should be made payable to The Kings of Wessex Academy, or alternatively, you can pay online by logging onto the Academy website. Simply click onto the 'parents' link and select 'internet payments' from the menu.

During the activities and workshops, students will be supervised by staff at all times and they will work in small groups or pairs. As with all Academy trips students will be expected to uphold the reputation of the Academy, therefore exceptional behaviour is expected at all times throughout the whole trip and in the lead up to the trip. Failure to do this could result in them losing their place and any payments made. Absence following a school activity (for example: tiredness due to a late return, or sore feet following an extensive day walking) will not be authorised unless medical certification is provided. Without this evidence, students may not be allowed to attend further Academy enrichment activities.

Please complete the **permission slip** and **medical form** overleaf and **return both**, along with the full payment by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**. Attached is an information sheet regarding what students need to bring and information about Slapton Ley Field Studies Centre. A meeting will be held for students at lunchtime on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 to remind them of what to bring, timings of the trip etc. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding the fieldwork.

Yours faithfully,



**Kirsty Armitstead (Subject Leader for Geography)**



**PARENTAL CONSENT FORM**

**The Kings of Wessex Academy, Cheddar**

***Slapton Ley – 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017***

As parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor Group \_\_\_\_\_ I have read, fully understood and am satisfied with the details supplied about the above mentioned activity and agree to my son/daughter taking part in it. I know of no medical reason why he/she should not participate and confirm that he/she is not travelling/taking part in the activity against medical advice.

I am aware that

- a) Except for visits abroad, insurance arrangements are the same as those for pupils in the Academy, i.e. only provides cover if negligence is proven or accepted by the Academy and/or its employees.
- b) I should consider making my own insurance arrangements for personal accident cover for my son/daughter for Academy activities in the UK
- c) If a medical condition is diagnosed after final payment parents may choose to withdraw their child. Equally if the Academy feels they cannot accommodate the student within the pre-existing arrangement for the trip, the Academy reserves the right to withdraw the student place.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_