

May 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 12 Geography Fieldwork Trip, Wednesday 19 June to Thursday 20 June 2019

On 19-20 June 2019, Year 12 Geography students will complete the remaining two days of their compulsory fieldwork as part of their A-level. Last October, the students spent two days in Leeds and on the East Coast where they successfully began their fieldwork experience. This summer, the Year 12 Geographers will spend the remaining two-day requirement on the West Coast in the Liverpool area. This will include an overnight stay in Liverpool.

On Day 1 (Wednesday 19 June) **all students** will depart from St Aidan's at 08:45 and travel by coach to Formby. Here, they will have the opportunity to visit the sand dunes and beach owned by the National Trust. This is an opportunity for all students to consolidate and develop their understanding of aspects of the Coasts topic. Following a tour of the area and time for their packed lunch, the students focusing on coastal fieldwork will continue by coach to Crosby, whereas the students focusing on urban fieldwork will continue into Liverpool City Centre.

All students will then travel to Liverpool on Wednesday afternoon where they will have a teacher-led walk around the city to show them some of Liverpool's most significant regeneration projects. This is an opportunity for the students to consolidate and develop their understanding of the Regeneration topic.

In the evening, we will check into the Euro Hostel and then go into Liverpool Centre to have an early supper followed by a trip to the cinema at Liverpool One. The hostel details and contact number are **Euro Hostel, 50 Stanley Street, Liverpool L1 6AU**.

On Day 2, the students will follow an itinerary that is determined by the title of their Independent Investigation. This piece of work is worth 20% of the A-level qualification and students should aim to produce a high quality piece of 4,000 words based on the evidence collected on Day 2. We expect students to have completed a full draft of this piece by the start of term in September 2019. Whilst our staff will monitor that this has been carried out, we are unable due to examination requirements to give individual feedback and guidance on improvements. Students will continue to work on this piece with class guidance at the start of Year 13.

If your son/daughter has chosen a Regeneration focused title, they will spend the day in Liverpool. If they have chosen a Coasts focus, they will return to Crosby or Formby. Their exact locations and activities will be based on the methods they have opted to carry out to collect evidence for their unique title. This may include questionnaires, interviews, bi-polar surveys, environmental quality surveys, traffic counts, pedestrian counts, vegetation surveys, pH measurements, wave counts, beach profiles, annotated sketches and litter counts.

Students will be working in small groups and a teacher will always be in an agreed location nearby, although they will not always be directly supervised. It is therefore imperative that students can be trusted to behave well and carry out the necessary tasks to enable them to complete this piece of work to a high standard. It is also essential that they follow advice about potential risks, and are considerate of their environment and people around them. We will discuss the potential risks with our students prior to the trip and they are required to carry out risk assessments for their methods, which the teaching staff will check.

We aim to leave Liverpool/Crosby/Formby before 15:00 and we would hope to arrive at St Aidan's at approximately 17:00. In reality, this may be later depending on the students' efficiency of data collection and Thursday evening traffic. We will ask students to make contact with their parents to give a better idea of our return time as we get closer to Harrogate.

The cost for the two days will be £90.00, which covers transport costs for the two days, full board overnight accommodation in Liverpool, and a trip to the cinema. Payment is via ParentPay (St John Fisher pupils can contact the Finance Department at St Aidan's where they will be given a St Aidan's activation code and instructions. You will be able to view the balance due as well as giving online consent for the trip. Please complete the attached consent form below and return it to Reception **at St Aidan's**. **Payment must be received by Friday 7 June 2019 and it is non-refundable.** Students should bring money for supper on the first evening prior to the cinema visit.

Information relating to health and emergency contacts and dietary requirements will be taken from the form you completed when your son/daughter entered the Associated Sixth Form. If there are any amendments to this information or concerns that require further discussion, please contact the school nurse. If your son/daughter's medical details indicate that they need medication such as inhalers, please ensure that they bring these with them, **otherwise we will be unable to take them.**

We will be outside for the majority of the fieldwork. Students therefore need to come suitably dressed with **warm clothes, waterproofs and sensible sturdy footwear**. They may need sun cream. Our locations can be exposed, whatever the weather, students need to be prepared to spend two days outside. Jeans should be avoided. Students need to bring a clipboard if they have one and full writing equipment (pen, pencil, ruler). A packed lunch on day 1 is essential, as there will not be any opportunity to buy food or drink. They will need a small rucksack or bag with a shoulder strap to carry during the day.

In the event of an emergency, the following contacts should be used:

Mr David Holdsworth	01423 885 814 (St Aidan's Office)
Emergency Number	07444 829 320 (out of hours)
Mr John Sharpe	01423 887 254 (St John Fisher's Office)

To maintain the high standards we expect from our students, school will look at the behaviour, attendance and wellbeing of all individual students **before they are accepted onto** any trip out of school. The decision to allow a student to participate will be taken between the Trip Leader, the Head of Year and Senior Staff. Once a student has been accepted onto a trip if, in the time between gaining a place on the trip and the departure, there are concerns again about the pupil's participation, **the Heads of the Associated Sixth Form reserve the right to withdraw the student's place and any payments made may not be refunded.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any enquiries about the trip.

Regards

Mrs R Barron
Geography Department – St Aidan's

Mr D Heaton
Geography Department – St John Fisher's