

October 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Year 12 Geography Fieldwork Trip – East Coast – Tuesday 15th October 2024

We are delighted to share the details for students' first Geography A-level fieldwork trip. Fieldwork is a compulsory aspect of the A-level Geography course, and all students must participate in a minimum of 4-days of fieldwork in order to meet the exam board's requirements. The first of these days is outlined in the letter below and will take place on Tuesday 15 October 2024. Details about the three remaining compulsory fieldwork trips will follow in due course once they have been finalised. I will write to you again once I have more information.

Fieldwork plays an important role in preparing students for their exams as it enhances their understanding and ability to apply their knowledge in both physical (Paper 1) and human (Paper 2) geography. It also helps them to develop analysis skills, which leads to greater confidence and success when looking at geographical issues, essential for Paper 3. In addition, students will be expected to carry out an independent research project which requires them to develop an individual (unique) research question, and plan methods to provide evidence to answer this. This NEA (non-Examined Assessment) is worth 20% of A-level Geography and planning and writing this piece will be a core activity in lessons in the Summer term of Year 12 and Autumn of Year 13, and something students will be expected to work on over the summer.

This trip is the first step in equipping students with a working knowledge of a variety of fieldwork methods and an opportunity to collect valuable primary data. Students will visit the East Coast (Bridlington). We will depart St Aidan's at 08:45 and travel by coach to Bridlington, returning to St Aidan's for approximately 17.00.

A variety of fieldwork will be carried out which includes questionnaires, pedestrian counts, cliff profiles, sketches, bi-polar analysis and land use surveys. Students will work as a class and in small groups in various locations. Therefore, students will not be directly supervised at all times. However, all students will know the location of staff and how to contact them when working independently in their groups.

We are asking you to make a voluntary contribution of £15.00 by Friday 11 October 2024, towards the cost of the trip and will be available on your Parentpay account now.

Please note the trip is **not** available on the St John Fisher's Parentpay. If you require an activation code for the St Aidans' Parentpay, please email parentpay@staidans.co.uk week commencing Monday 7 October 2024. It is important to include your child's name in the email.

Consent for the trip is required on ParentPay. Please note that by ticking the box online you are agreeing to your son/daughter taking part in the trip, the cost of the trip and confirming that their medical details are up to date. Your child's medical details will be used for all four fieldwork trips. Therefore, if there are any changes over the course of this year, you must inform both myself and the school nurse. It is vitally important that we have up to date medical details for all students going out of school on trips. We will not be able to take any student that we do not hold this information for. Information relating to health and emergency contacts is taken from the form filled in when your son/daughter entered Sixth Form. If your son/daughter's medical details indicate that they need medication such as inhalers, please ensure that they bring them on all fieldwork occasions; otherwise, we will be unable to take them.

We will be outside for most of the fieldwork. Students therefore need to come suitably dressed in warm clothes, waterproofs and sensible sturdy footwear. It can be cold, wet and windy, and as there is limited shelter, it is best to be prepared. Students need to bring a clipboard if they have one and full writing equipment (pen, pencil and ruler) and a packed lunch. They will need a small rucksack or bag with a shoulder strap to carry during the day.

School trips form an important part of the curriculum offered at St Aidan's. Please help us by reinforcing to your son/daughter our expectations on behaviour in order that each student can gain the maximum from the trip. If we have any concerns about a student's participation on this trip in the time between now and the date of departure, we reserve the right to withdraw the student's place.

If you have any queries about this trip, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Robinson

Head of Geography

St Aidan's High School



ASSOCIATED SIXTH FORM

ST AIDAN'S & ST JOHN FISHER, HARROGATE

