



WOOD GREEN ACADEMY

A Specialist College of Sport, Maths & Computing

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Headteacher: Mr J.Topham B.Sc.(Hons), M.Sc., NPQH

Dear Parents/Carers,

January 2018.

Re GCSE Geography fieldwork.

As you are aware your son/daughter has opted to study GCSE Geography. In class we have been completing units relating to the Physical and Human geography of the UK.

Fieldwork is a compulsory part of the GCSE Geography course, all pupils have to undertake two whole days' fieldwork; one involving UK Physical Geography (Rivers) and the other UK Human Geography (Urban). These fieldwork days relate directly to the taught content and will be assessed as part of their final exams.

In order to facilitate the data collection needed for the physical fieldwork we have arranged a days' fieldwork for our GCSE Geographers:

Monday 26/2/18 Option C and Option D (Mr Dey/Mrs Buchanan).

Monday 5/3/18 Option A set 1 and set 3 (Mr Dey/Miss Veale)

Tuesday 6/3/18 Option A set 2 and Set 4 (Mr Chidziya/Mr Heeley)

The Geographical Investigation will take the form of a River Study. We are investigating how river channel and drainage basin characteristics of a river influence flood risk. The stream we will be measuring is at Carding Mill Valley, Church Stretton, and Shropshire. It is only a small stream but should give us sufficient data, we already use this stream with our A level Geographers and are familiar with the area. In addition, on the journey home we aim to make a short stop at Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury to look at the flood defences in place along the River Severn. The stream we are measuring is a tributary of this river and we have studied the River Severn in lessons as our named example.

The pupils will be in the stream at Carding Mill Valley at various sites taking measurements of depth, width, bedload, velocity, slope angle as well as completing field sketches, site descriptions and taking photos. They will be working in teams and we will complete a preparation lesson before the trip so they are competent with using the equipment. Measuring equipment is provided by the Geography department.

Pupils will need to take a packed lunch, warm/waterproof clothing and suitable footwear. We do not expect them to wear school uniform. In addition, we are allowing pupils to take their mobile phones with them for the fieldtrip (if they so wish). These will be needed for the pupils to take pictures of the sites visited. The mobile phones will also be needed to be used as stopwatches to time an object in the river over distance (this measures velocity). Obviously, the mobile phones are the pupils' responsibility and are taken at their own risk. Staff will have school digital cameras to take photographs of the different river sites visited. As fieldwork and data collection are a compulsory part of the GCSE Geography course and in view of the educational nature of the fieldwork all transport costs will be covered by the school.



"A Leading Edge Partnership School"

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Company number: 07538389





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Due to the nature of the work to be carried out there may be times when your son or daughter will be supervised in accordance with the DFEE's guidelines on remote supervision and as part of these measures all pupils will be issued with an emergency contact telephone number, although change for telephones cannot be provided by the school. Pupils will be working in groups (minimum of 6) at all times and a member of staff will always be close by. At such times as these, pupils will be expected to behave in a sensible and mature manner as will be outlined to them at the start of the day. Carding Mill Valley is National Trust property and designated an 'area of outstanding natural beauty'.

If you wish your son/daughter to take part in the visit, please fill out the proforma below and return it, along with the AB form, as soon as possible to your child's Geography teacher. Please be advised that according to the requirements of the new GCSE Geography course, it is a required element that all pupils complete 2 full days of fieldwork away from the school site.

We will leave school at approximately 9.15am and hope to return to school by 3.30pm (depending on traffic).

If you have any queries, please contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Buchanan
Head of Geography

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I wish my son/daughter to take part in the proposed visit to Carding Mill Valley on:

Monday 26/2/18, Monday 5/3/18, Tuesday 6/3/18 (please delete as applicable).

I have read and understood the letter detailing the type of work to be carried out by the pupils taking part in the trip and agree to remote supervision on this trip.

Pupils name Form

Signed Date

(Parent/Guardian)



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