

31<sup>st</sup> October 2017

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As part of your son/ daughter's A Level geography course there is a Department for Education (DfE) requirement to complete 4 days of geography fieldwork. Students need to conduct an independent geographical investigation including collecting their own fieldwork data on coasts and urban areas which they will then use to complete a written report which forms 20% of their final A Level mark.

We intend to conduct this fieldwork on a **residential field trip on 27th February – 2nd March 2018, at the Field Studies Council's (FSC) Nettlecombe Centre in Somerset**<sup>1</sup>. The FSC is a well-known and high quality teaching centre for geographical fieldwork; it works closely with the geography exam boards and provides sound experience, fieldwork facilities and local area knowledge which will support our students to make the best progress possible. The students will be accompanied by Mr Cutmore and Ms Emmett, Teacher of Geography and Curriculum Leader for Geography respectively, and there are a number of experienced male and female FSC duty staff at the centre 24 hours a day. The students will be staying in comfortable dormitory accommodation and the trip is fully catered.

The cost for this trip per pupil is £327.00, including transport to and from the Centre (by school minibus). This is a voluntary payment, however, there are no additional funds provided by DfE for the trip and the trip is at risk if not funded by parents. A copy of the MAS charging policy is available on the school website. To spread the cost of the trip we propose the following payment schedule:

Balance payable on:-

Deposit £50 by 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017

£139 by 6th December 2017

£138.00 final payment by 6th February 2017.

Please can you return the following reply slip to Ms Emmett by 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

I give my permission for (name) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend and can fund the £327 trip cost.

Name of parent / carer: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_.

Please note also that: (Please turn over)...

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.field-studies-council.org/centres/nettlecombecourt.aspx>

Headteacher: Katherine Ryan

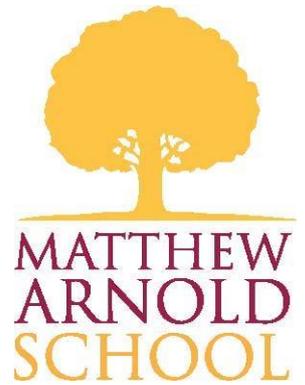
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- 1) We will refer to the medical details of the students in the school records, unless advised of any changes/ updates. In the meantime if you have any questions, or would like to discuss payments then please do not hesitate to contact me on [bemmett@maschool.org.uk](mailto:bemmett@maschool.org.uk)
- 2) We are aware that students taking A Level Biology will also be invited for a residential fieldtrip in 2018. Mindful of costs to parents, we have investigated thoroughly whether it would be possible to combine both trips in order to save costs. Both the MAS Biology and Geography departments and the FSC agree that there is not sufficient overlap in the 2 courses' content for this to be feasible. It is not compulsory for Biology students to 4 day's fieldwork. It is compulsory (an exam board requirement) for A Level Geography students.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Bethan Emmett, Curriculum Leader for Geography.

Headteacher: Katherine Ryan



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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