



Great Marlow School

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Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Geography fieldtrip –Swanage

Many thanks for your contribution and support for our forthcoming GCSE Geography fieldtrip to Swanage. We are now making the final arrangements for this trip and I'd like to make you aware of some key points to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

Date: Friday 1st October

Departure Please ensure your son/daughter is at school at **6.45am** for registration and a prompt departure at 7.00am from the **School Redgrave Centre Coach Park**.

Return: Depending on traffic conditions, we are aiming to be back at school by **8.00pm on Friday evening**.

Clothing and equipment: Once again, students should be dressed appropriately to spend most of their time outdoors, even if it is raining and/or colder than normal for the time of year. Therefore, several **layers of clothing** and a **waterproof coat** are essential. We will provide sufficient paper and survey equipment, but your son/daughter should bring their own folder, pens, pencils and a calculator (as they would usually for school) and a clipboard if they have one. A mobile phone/camera would also be useful for taking photographs and collecting data while we are out, however, this is not essential and it is the student's responsibility to look after such expensive items. Otherwise, the use of mobile phones on the trip will be in line with usual school expectations i.e. *not for use during work/lesson time unless directed*.

Lunch: Please provide your son/daughter with a suitable **packed lunch, drinks and snacks** for what is a long day out. There will be an opportunity to buy food later in the afternoon at Knoll Beach, which has shops and cafes, before our journey home.

Safety: We will be working on Swanage Beach and along the SW Coastal Path at Ballard Down, Old Harry Rocks and Knoll Beach. There will be roads to be crossed and we'll be taking footpaths that are a short distance from cliff edges. Whilst the risk of incident is small, we take the safety of our students very seriously. Your son/daughter will work at all times in a group of 8-10 students, under the close supervision of their class teacher. We will carry First Aid kits, whilst students and staff will be made aware of the location of the trip leader (myself) with the school mobile phone for contact in emergency. I ask for your support in reinforcing the need for sensible behaviour and compliance with our instructions at all times.

The journey: I've been in touch with our coach company this morning, they foresee no problems with fuel at the moment!

Having said all this, I wish to reassure you that as long as students are sensible and follow instructions, they will remain safe and I hope they will thoroughly enjoy the fieldwork experience and gain valuable skills to prepare them for success in their GCSE Geography studies. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the main school office. May I take this opportunity to thank you once again for supporting this trip and your son/daughter's learning.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Warner
Head of Geography