



Great Marlow School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 GCSE Geography Fieldwork Visit to Oxford on Wednesday 27th March 2024

As part of our GCSE Geography course, the Examination Board requires that the school offers students the opportunity to gain direct experience of undertaking **both human and physical geography** fieldwork away from the classroom. The data collected will then support your son/daughter with the GCSE Paper 3 examination which is worth 40% of the final grade.

In order to assist with this, we arranged two fieldtrip visits: to Swanage last September and to **Oxford on Wednesday 27th March 2024. It is now time to prepare for the Oxford visit.** During our visit, we will participate in group work to collect primary fieldwork data in and around the central area of Oxford. We also plan to have a "Geography Lunch" in the Food Hall area of the Westgate Centre in Oxford to mark the fact that we will have completed the GCSE course.

On our visit, the students will gain valuable experience in fieldwork and enquiry techniques essential for success at GCSE and beyond. They will work independently in small groups in the city centre of Oxford, checking in regularly with their Geography teacher and other members of the Great Marlow School staff. On this visit, we can, of course, accommodate all student medical / special / other needs as far as is possible - students should not be put off because of these - all of our locations in Oxford are accessible for wheelchair users. Students found to be behaving inappropriately will be removed from their groups and be escorted by their teacher for the whole day. Further sanctions may also follow on our return to school. **The plan is to depart from Great Marlow School for Oxford on Friday at 9.00 am and return at an estimated 4.30 pm.**

We are asking for a *voluntary contribution* of £20 and your completion of the MS Consent Form via Wise Pay by Monday 15th January.

If you have any issues with Wise Pay, please email the finance office, finance@gms.bucks.sch.uk, who will be happy to assist.

The voluntary contribution covers the cost of return coach travel, equipment and insurance. Additional money will be required on the day for your child to purchase their lunch at the Westgate Centre. As this fieldtrip is designed to enhance the curriculum, all students will be included regardless of ability to pay, but if insufficient contributions are received it will have to be cancelled. This would present significant challenges in terms of completing the required course content. I hope you will agree that this represents extremely good value considering the experience your son/daughter will gain from this trip.

Details of clothing and equipment requirements etc will follow in due course. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the main school office. Many thanks for your co-operation and support.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Warner
Head of Geography