



06 June 2025

Dear Families

**Year 10 GCSE Geography residential Field Trip to South Wales on Thursday 10 July 2025 to Saturday 12 July 2025**

It will not be long until we embark on our trip to Wales to collect primary river data to use in the field work questions in the year 11 geography exams.

Students will need to be at school by **7.30am on Thursday 10 July** and we aim to return by **6.00pm on Saturday 12 July**, subject to traffic conditions.

Students will be staying in fully catered accommodation at Swansea University, so all breakfasts and evening meals, as well as a packed lunch for the Friday, are included in the cost of the trip. Therefore, students will need to bring a packed lunch with them on Thursday 10 July, as well as a small amount of money to purchase lunch as we stop on our return to East Grinstead on Saturday 12 July.

If your child has dietary requirements that we are not aware of yet (as they may not have been communicated with school yet), please complete this [google form](#).

The field work will be carried out along the course of the River Taff, from its source in the Brecon Beacons National Park to the mouth in Cardiff.

A full kit list is attached to this letter. All items are highly recommended or essential but I must draw your attention to an important safety consideration. As students will be walking on uneven ground and getting into the river (where it is safe to do so), it is important that in order to be able to go into the river at least two different kinds of footwear are packed for the trip:

- a pair of sturdy walking boots or trainers is essential (no ballet-style pumps or canvas trainers)
- a pair of old trainers or wet-shoes for getting into the river (students cannot enter the river barefoot or in flip-flops)

Also please bear in mind that the weather can be very changeable in the Welsh mountains. It is very important that students are prepared for all conditions, hot, cold, wet, dry and everything in between!

I would remind you that expensive items (phones, cameras, laptops etc) are not insured and so the recommendation is that they are left at home unless covered by your own insurance. It is also requested that students do not bring portable speaker systems on the trip, and instead listen to music using headphones or air pods. Any remaining payments for the trip should be made directly via the MCAS app.

Yours sincerely

**Daan Gerretsen** Leader,

**Organiser and Teacher of Geography**





Sackville Geography Department

**GCSE Fieldwork Kit List (essentials and recommendations)\*:**

**Waterproof coat** - Essential

**Waterproof trousers** – Recommended

**Warm trousers** – not jeans as these absorb water and become heavy and difficult to dry in wet conditions - Essential

**Warm coat or fleece** - Essential

**Warm base layer/T-shirts** - Essential

**Walking boots/sturdy footwear** – these should have plenty of tread on the sole and should be fairly waterproof - Essential

**Walking socks** – one pair – essential, two pairs - Recommended

**Wet shoes or Wellington boots** - for wading in rivers - Recommended

**Warm gloves and hat** - Recommended

**Sunhat and sunscreen** - Essential

**Insect repellent** - Recommended

**A small day rucksack (25 litres)** - Essential

**Fieldwork notebook** - Recommended

**Stationery (pens!)** – Essential

**Individual medication with clear instructions** – make sure staff are aware of any medical issues - essential

**Packed lunch for the first day + snacks.** - Essential

**Small amount of money for lunch/snacks on Saturday** – Essential

**Hand sanitiser** – Recommended

**Old clothes for fieldwork** - Essential

**Casual clothes for the evenings** – Recommended!

**Toiletries** - Essential

**Towel** – Essential

**Entertainment (cards, books, footballs, Frisbees etc.)** – Recommended

**Enthusiasm (compulsory!)**

\* If you have any questions about the list, please contact Mr Gerretsen [dgerretsen@sackvilleschool.org.uk](mailto:dgerretsen@sackvilleschool.org.uk)