



December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK, OXFORD, THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024

The Geography Department is planning a fieldtrip for Year 11 students to support their preparation for their GCSE exams.

As part of the "Urban issues and challenges" topic, students have learnt about the characteristics of contrasting areas of cities. The aim of this fieldtrip is to see if we can find these characteristics in real urban places. We will investigate the differences in housing, environmental quality and standard of living in contrasting areas of Oxford – Summertown and Cowley.

Fieldwork is an important component of the Geography curriculum and is a required element of the AQA GCSE specification. In Paper 3: Geographical Applications, students will be asked questions about their fieldwork experiences, so this fieldwork feeds directly into this summer's GCSE exams.

The fieldtrip will take place on Thursday 18 January. We will travel by coach, leaving school at 9am and returning by 2.30pm. The students will work in groups and will be supervised by teaching and support staff.

Students will be expected to wear school uniform and should take account of the weather on the day for additional clothing (coat/jacket, gloves, umbrella etc). They will be responsible for any valuables that they bring with them. They should bring a packed lunch and drink with them, or a small amount of money so that they can buy food in either Summertown or Cowley.

Parents/carers are invited to make a **payment of £15.50** towards the cost of travel and insurance. We do not want to exclude any student from the visit; however, without this financial support from parents, the visit may have to be cancelled. Therefore, if you are concerned about payment, please contact us and we may be able to direct you to agencies which might be able to support you. **Payment should be made through ParentPay by Friday 5 January, please.**

Please note the following:

- Your son/daughter will be expected to comply with the School Behaviour Policy both whilst travelling and during the visit;
- Please inform the school of any changes to your son/daughter's medical conditions, emergency contact numbers or any other information that you have already supplied to the school;
- Your son/daughter may receive first aid and emergency treatment during the visit.

Yours sincerely

M Barrett

Subject Leader for Geography