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October 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

### **GCSE Geography Field Trip to South Wales – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

I am pleased to contact you regarding the above trip which is always a valuable and enjoyable experience for GCSE geography students at Sackville. Student feedback reveals that the year 10 trip is a memorable experience that enriches learning as well as providing a necessary practical element of the course.

As part of their geography GCSE, students are expected to undertake a controlled assessment. The task is set by the exam board and is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade. The work is completed in school and this year's topic relates to rivers. Should you wish to discuss the topic at home the specific question is: 'Investigate the changes in channel shape and discharge for contrasting stretches of a river.'

The data that students need to complete the controlled assessment will be collected on a field trip to South Wales. Students will depart from school in the morning on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and return at around 5.00pm on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016. All students are urged to attend this trip because in addition to collecting the data needed for their project, students will also receive valuable advice regarding their exams and the controlled assessment from myself and other members of the geography department on the trip. Provision will of course be made for those not able to attend the trip to ensure they are able to complete the controlled assessment.

You are invited to make a voluntary contribution of £150 which will cover the cost of the visit including transport and other incidental costs. I must, however, tell you that as the school could not bear the cost of the visit, the visit will not take place unless all parents, who are able, are willing to contribute. Insurance for all school trips is arranged through West Sussex County Council. Full details of the policy can be found on our website at [http://www.sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk/?page\\_id=26728](http://www.sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk/?page_id=26728).

The cost can be spread by paying in instalments as detailed below. Of course, the full balance can be paid at any time earlier than suggested below.

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date Due</b>
Deposit	£50	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2015
Second Instalment	£50	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Final Balance	£50	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2016

The students will be staying in fully catered accommodation at Swansea University so all meals are included in the price. In addition to providing an excellent base for the fieldwork, Swansea University is ideally situated by the beach so that, weather permitting, students will get to enjoy evening activities overseen by staff on the beach.

Payments can be made either via the online payment system or alternatively directly to the finance office, accompanied by a cheque and the reply/consent slip attached. Cheques should be made payable to Sackville School. Please write the student's full name, form, and 'GCSE geography field trip' to avoid confusion on the back of the cheque.

Closer to the time I will be in contact to detail the finer points of the trip but in the meantime do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Robinson  
**Curriculum Leader of Geography**



