



Headteacher  
Debbie Smith B.Ed, NPQH

# Sandhurst School

the opportunity to succeed

Owlsmoor Road, Owlsmoor, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 0SD

Tel: (01344)775678

Fax: (01344) 771575

Website: [www.sandhurst.bracknell-forest.sch.uk](http://www.sandhurst.bracknell-forest.sch.uk)

E.mail: [admin@sandhurst.bracknell-forest.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sandhurst.bracknell-forest.sch.uk)

26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Re: A Level Geography Course

I am very pleased to welcome your son/daughter onto the A level Geography course. In order for them to get the most out of their studies there are some resources they will need to purchase and field visits that they will need to attend. I have made a list of these below:

1. The students must attend a five day residential visit to Snowdonia, which will reinforce what they learn over the course of the year. The topics studied in class include glaciers and population issues. Your son/daughter's understanding of these topics will be greatly enhanced by visiting these sites. This visit will reinforce the topics taught in class and introduce a wide range of data collection techniques and analytical methods. These skills are essential for the students when tackling the Independent Investigation, which is worth 25% of their final A Level grade. The cost of this visit is £395; this includes four nights full board accommodation at the Field Studies Centre, minibus transport, outdoor clothing and travel insurance. The visit will run from **Sunday 4th March 2018** to **Wednesday 7th March 2018**. Further details will be released closer to the time. A deposit of £100 will be required by **Friday 13th of October 2017** payable to the finance office.
2. It is essential that your son/daughter purchases a copy of the core text book, which covers the course content. The text book relevant to the course is published by Pearson's: Edexcel AS/A Level Geography Book 1, ISBN 9781292139609. An additional textbook will be required for Year 13 (Book 2) Pearson's: Edexcel A Level Geography Book 2, ISBN 9781292139654. We do offer a buyback scheme here at Sandhurst School. At the end of the two year A level course, textbooks in good condition can be sold back to the school at a reduced price. We do not have any to offer at a reduced price this year as the course is still new.
3. In order to access the highest possible marks at A level, students must do additional research above and beyond that provided in lessons. For this we recommend a subscription to Geography Review Magazine, especially if there is a possibility that your son/daughter may continue their Geographical studies beyond A level. The cost of this is £15 for one year. The magazine is published four times a year.
4. To support your son/daughter with their exams we recommend they purchase a copy of the revision guide. This will be published for the Edexcel A Level Geography Course in the near future. These will be available on Amazon when published.

Year 12 and 13 students are eligible to apply for a bursary to contribute towards the course. Please see the attached letter which provides further details.

The resources and visits can be paid for using cheque or cash. Cheques should be made payable to *Sandhurst School Private Account* and returned with the OHA2 form and reply slip, to the letterbox outside the finance office by **Friday 13th October**. Alternatively, payment can be made online and this facility will be available 48 hours from receipt of this letter. Please return the signed OHA2 form and reply slip attached. All forms should be returned in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your son/daughter's name, tutor group and Geography A Level Course. Receipts for payments will be issued on request.

Cont./...



Would you prefer to receive your letters by Email? If so, please notify the school and provide us with your Email address

It is school policy that no child is disadvantaged by virtue of the fact that their parent(s) are unable to pay. Children in receipt of free school lunches may be eligible to have some or all of the cost of the visits paid for by the school. Parents do not have to pay for school lunches if they receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed £16,040
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after their employment finishes or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Children who receive IS or IBJSA in their own right are also entitled to receive free school meals. It is also policy that no visit should run at a loss and therefore if insufficient contributions are made the visit will be cancelled.

Details of visit equipment and an itinerary will be released nearer the time. Meanwhile, should any of the details on the OHA2 form change or if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,



**Miss Helen Maisey**  
**Geography Subject Leader**

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**GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL TRIPS & RESOURCES DUE: 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**PLEASE HAND IN TO THE FINANCE OFFICE**

Name of student.....

I wish to pay for the following items to support the learning of my son/daughter through their AS Level Geography course (tick those that apply):

- £100 deposit for residential field trip to Snowdonia (compulsory) **OR**
- £395 total payment for residential field trip to Snowdonia (compulsory)
- £15.00 for one years subscription to 'Geography Review' magazine (recommended)
- Completed **OHA2 - VISITS medical and consent form** attached

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

Total enclosed..... Cheque / cash                      Payment made online on ...../...../2017

Signed..... Date.....



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