RE: Geography GCSE field work trip – Friday 16th October 2026
BHA classes 11G1A and 11G2B

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 Geographers,

We are writing with details of the upcoming Geography GCSE field work trip.
As part of the geography GCSE course, it is a compulsory element for AQA specification 8035: Paper 3 – Geographical Applications, to complete two geographical enquiries, each of which must include the use of primary data, collected as part of a fieldwork exercise.

The two enquiries must be carried out in contrasting environments and show an understanding of both physical and human geography. In at least one of the enquiries, students are expected to show an understanding of the interaction between physical and human geography. They will be expected to understand the following aspects of the process of geographical enquiry:

- Suitable question for geographical enquiry
- Selecting, measuring and recording data appropriate to the chosen enquiries
- Selecting appropriate ways of processing and presenting fieldwork data
- Describing, analysing and explaining fieldwork data
- Reaching conclusions
- Evaluation of geographical enquiry.

To minimise disruption to the students' other subjects, we undertake both geographical enquiries in one day. We aim to complete this in Term 1, while the weather is still likely to be clement. Students will be mostly with members of their own class, as well as some students from other geography classes.

Date:	**Friday 16th October 2026**
Where to meet:	**Eastbourne station (inside)**
When to meet:	**09.15am – please ensure students are not late as this will impact the field studies that we have planned.**
Lunch:	Students will have approximately 45 minutes to either eat a packed lunch or purchase lunch in the town centre. If purchasing food, students will need to carry their own money. Students will be directed where they can go, and staff will remain in Eastbourne station throughout. Students will be in unsupervised groups for lunch but will be given the school mobile number. Parental consent can be indicated on the Google Form, link below. If students are entitled to a free school meal, this can also be indicated on the Google Form and will be brought by staff from school.
When to leave:	**after 14.00pm – Eastbourne station (inside)**
What to wear:	Good shoes for walking/ appropriate, comfortable clothing for completing field work/ outerwear to account for the weather forecast. If it is sunny, students should apply their own sun cream and bring a hat. If it rains, students should have a waterproof coat. A re-useable water bottle is also needed. Toilet facilities are available along the seafront. Please check the weather forecast for the day.

Students will conduct two sets of field work investigations:

1) On the Beach: Beach profiles, width measurements, field observations on two beach locations close to Eastbourne pier.

2) In the Town Centre: Environmental quality surveys, land use transects and field observations in two town centre locations.

If your child is making their own way to and/or from Eastbourne Station parental consent is required on the Google Form. If there are any difficulties in getting to or from Eastbourne Station, please email lcollins@willingdonschool.org.uk

Google Form

As this is compulsory element of the final GCSE grade, all geography students are expected to attend. If this is not possible for any reason, please call on 01323 485 254 to speak directly with Mrs Collins – HoD.

Poor behaviour/low attendance will not be tolerated at Willingdon Community School. Therefore, we reserve the right to cancel a student's participation in a trip if behaviour/attendance does not reach our expected high standards.

Please ensure all medical details for your child are up to date before this trip commences.

Kind regards

Mrs Collins

Geography Department