

RE: John Muir Award

Residential trip 8th -11th February 2019

Geography year 10 students



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As I'm sure you are aware your son/daughter has opted to study Geography for their humanities GCSE option. As part of this course they are expected to carry out fieldwork and investigative studies; of which the dates and locations of these are yet to be decided, we will inform you of these in due course.

In addition to their GCSE course the Geography team are offering a chance to obtain the Discover John Muir Award with the chance to extend to the Explorers Award on our return to school. This is an environmental award which helps students to learn to appreciate and value nature, urban greenspaces and wild landscapes. It is designed to encourage pupils to use the environment sensibly and to think about environmental agendas for individuals and organisations; as a nationally recognised award it can be used to boost CV's, UCAS applications and records of achievement.

The Geography team are excited to offer this course as part of a 4 day residential on the 8th -11th February 2019 in the New Forest. The trip will cost a total of £240 for the whole weekend. This trip will be on a first come first served basis as there are only 31 places available. Should the places fill then we will start a waiting list for those who are interested but did not secure a place. Furthermore, the school reserve the right to refuse a place on this trip for any pupil whose attendance falls below the acceptable level and/or their behaviour/progress/attitude to learning has been a cause for concern.

The weekend activities are yet to be finalised but will include a selection of the following and possibly others:

- High and low ropes
- Conservation project
- Campfire
- Night walk
- Bushcraft and animal tracking
- Shelter building
- Navigation and orienteering
- Geographical skills hunt

As this trip will take place in February in the UK all pupils will be expected to bring their own waterproof coat and trousers and have an appropriate amount of layers; hats, gloves and scarfs will be needed as most activities take place outside regardless of weather; a sturdy pair of walking boots is also advisable due to muddy terrain throughout the site, wellies are not suitable for participation in most activities.

In order to secure a place on this trip students must hand in a sealed envelope (with name, tutor group and **Geography Residential** clearly marked on the front) to the Cashier Point containing a completed reply slip and the first instalment of £120 by July 6th. The second payment will be due October 5th.

Please fill in the reply slip attached if you wish to give your consent and return as soon as possible (please remember there are limited places). Please make all cheques payable to "Vandyke School".

For anyone who would like to take part in this visit and is experiencing some financial difficulties there is a bursary that can be applied for through the school. Please contact Mrs Kelby at the school for information about eligibility for bursary support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Moore

Team Leader of Geography



New Forest Residential John Muir Award

Student name: _____ Geography teacher: _____

I wish for my son/daughter to take part in John Muir Award trip and enclose cash/cheque of £120.

I wish for my son/daughter to take part in John Muir Award trip and have made a payment on sQuid

I understand the Payment is nonreturnable.

Parent signature: _____ Name: _____

Contact information details: _____

My son/daughter can be given paracetamol: YES NO

My son/daughter can swim confidently: YES NO

For the award T-shirt or hoody please select the size you think your child will need (we can switch sizes on site dependent on availability)

Small Medium Large Extra large

Please inform us if your son/daughter has any specific food, allergy, or medical needs which we will need to be aware of for a residential activity weekend – include additional sheet if required.
