

April 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: A level Biology residential field course

In A level Biology, students are taught much of the ecology topic through attendance at a three day residential field course at Dale Fort Field Studies Centre in Pembrokeshire. The course is run by the Field Studies Council and this year will take place between Wednesday 17th October and Friday 19th October 2018. This course is extremely beneficial to both the students' intellectual and personal development and promotes independent learning.

During the course, students will study unfamiliar ecosystems and apply their knowledge to describe and explain patterns of distribution and abundance of different species that they encounter. They will also be exposed to scientific data collection methods that are integral to this part of their course and will learn how to statistically analyse the data to a high level of sophistication.

Some of the A2 Biology coursework is also carried out during the three days. Several PAG activities will also be carried out during the field course which will form part of the practical accreditation for A level Biology.

The cost for this course is £275 (although subject to numbers, this may be slightly less and in which case we will reduce the final payment accordingly) and shown below are the instalment payment dates.

- Deposit of **£100** to be paid by Friday 4th May
- The balance of **£175** to be paid by Friday 6th July

If you would like your daughter/son to attend this trip please **pay the deposit and fill in the online consent survey (link is in WisePay)**; simply login to your WisePay account for details. If you need a reminder of your WisePay login please e-mail j.gale@holt.wokingham.sch.uk. In the event of difficulties using this system, please telephone Mrs Gale, the School Trips Administrator.

*If for unforeseen circumstances your daughter/son does not continue with A level Biology in Year 13 these monies will be refundable **as long as** we have had written notice received by Monday 10th September.*

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Whitehouse
Head of Biology
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