



## AS LEVEL BIOLOGY ECOLOGICAL FIELD-TRIP

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian

As part of their AS level studies, students are required to attend a biology field-trip to Garwnant Visitor Centre located within the Brecon Beacons National Park on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**.

This field-trip will allow completion of the AS specification objective 2.1 j - *to investigate the biodiversity of a habitat, measuring species richness and individuals within each species population*. The day will involve students carrying out ecological sampling and collecting data to complete a specified practical in their AS/A2 laboratory book. Practical design, techniques and procedures form part of the A level assessment objectives examined in Units 1 and 2. Thus, this field-trip will provide students with a breadth of knowledge and experience needed to tackle possible questions in the AS examinations in June 2023.

Your son/daughter will travel by coach to Garwnant. We will be leaving school at 8.45am and departing Garwnant at approximately 1.45pm to arrive back in Cardiff at approximately 2.45pm. The member of staff in charge of the group is Dr A Davies and there will be three other accompanying members of staff. There will be an estimated total of 82 AS level biology students attending. The following telephone numbers can be used in an emergency 02920629700 (ext 1177) / 07985415110.

You are advised to please provide a packed lunch for the day, although there is a very small shop on site which supplies some sandwiches and drinks. Suitable warm, waterproof clothing including strong waterproof footwear (preferably wellies) is essential. Trousers rather than shorts are advised, as is a change of socks. Most equipment will be provided for students but they are asked to bring along a pencil, pen and notepad for recording results.

The **cost for the trip is £12.00 per person** - this covers transport costs for the day. The preferred method of payment is via ParentPay. The option to make payment will be available on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September and you must have paid by Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October. If you do not have an account with ParentPay or have any problems making payment, please email Mrs Linda Shepstone: [ShepstoneL@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:ShepstoneL@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk). **Completed consent forms** should be handed to a biology teacher by Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Should you have any other queries please do not hesitate to contact me by email: [grievej@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:grievej@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk)

As this field-trip will be held within the school day, students will be expected to speak to other subject teachers in advance to arrange to catch up with any missed work.

Yours sincerely

*J M Grieve*

Mr J Grieve (Biology department)



## AS Level Biology Ecological Field Trip

**Date:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Venue:** Garwnant Visitor Centre, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 2HU

### Itinerary:

- 8.30am **prompt** Registration & briefing in room 204 and 199, Biology department.
- 8.45am Coach leaves Whitchurch High School
- 9.45am Rotation of activities:
- Activity 1 – Aquatic habitat sampling & data collection
- Lunch
- Activity 2 – Ecology and conservation activities based around one of the walking trails.
- 1.45pm Coach returns to Whitchurch High School. Pupils collate data and receive instructions regarding data analysis.
- 2.55pm End of school day.

### What to bring & wear

**Clothing:** Due to the nature of the activities, students **must** wear suitable, warm clothing, e.g. trousers, T-shirts, jumpers. Footwear should preferably be wellies as students will carry out sampling of invertebrates in a stream. If this is not possible strong, waterproof boots are advised. Students should also bring additional waterproof clothing in case of inclement weather.

#### Note:

Students **must not** wear sandals, flip-flops or shorts.

**Lunch:** Students will need to bring a packed lunch, although there is a very small shop in the Visitor Centre.



**Form 2**

**Parent/carer consent: Non-routine visits**

To be distributed with an information sheet/letter giving full details of the visit

Visit/activity:

**AS Biology Field trip**

Destination: **Garwnant Visitor Centre, Brecon Beacons**

Date(s):

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Your child's name:

Form:

**Medical and dietary**

a) Does your child have any physical or behavioural condition that may affect him/her during the visit? YES/NO

If YES, please give details:

b) Please give details of any allergies:

c) Please give details of any special dietary requirements of your child:

d) Please detail any recent illness or accident suffered by your child that staff should be aware of?

e) Please list any type types of non-prescription medication or lotions your child **may not** be given:

f) To the best of your knowledge, has your son/daughter been in contact with any contagious or infectious diseases or suffered from anything in the last four weeks that may be contagious or infectious? YES/NO

If YES, please give details:

h) When did your son/daughter last have a tetanus injection?

**Water confidence/swimming ability**

Please indicate your child's swimming ability:

Cannot swim

Able to swim a little in a swimming pool

Able to swim confidently in a swimming pool  Able to swim confidently outdoors (e.g. lake, river or sea)



### Your contact details

Telephone: Home:

Work:

Mobile:

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

### Alternative emergency contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Family doctor

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Declaration

- Having read the information about the visit, and having understood the level of supervision to be provided, I agree to my child taking part in the visit and activities described.
- I understand that all reasonable care will be taken of my child during the visit/activity and that he/she will be under an obligation to obey all directions and instructions given and observe all rules and regulations governing the visit/activity.
- I understand the code of conduct for the visit and the sanctions that may be used if my child breaks this code of conduct. I have discussed the code of conduct and sanctions with my child.
- I understand that if my child seriously misbehaves or is a cause of danger to him/herself or to others, then I may be asked to collect him/her or he/she may be brought home early from the visit/activity. In such a situation there will be no obligation on the school/establishment to refund any money.
- In an emergency I agree to my son/daughter receiving medication and any emergency dental, medical or surgical treatment, including anaesthetic or blood transfusion, as considered necessary by the medical authorities present.
- I understand that the school may use activity images for promotional or publicity purposes
- I understand the extent and limitations of the insurance cover provided.

FULL NAME OF PARENT OR CARER (print please): \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### TO BE COMPLETED BY PARTICIPANT:

I understand that for the safety of the group and myself I will undertake to obey the rules and instructions of members of staff.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I believe that my child may be eligible to have this trip fully or partly funded: Yes / No