



July 2023

The Sixth Form

Dear Parents and Carers

Geography A Level Independent Investigation (NEA)

As part of the A Level Geography course, students are required to undertake an independent investigation. This is an important piece of work that accounts for 20% of the A Level marks.

This investigation requires students to devise a title and hypotheses of their own choosing, with clear links to the AQA A level specification. There is a requirement for primary data collection (fieldwork of approximately 2 days) to be carried out. Students have conducted three fieldwork enquiries during the course of Year 12 to help prepare them for this investigation.

During some of our lesson time, between now and Christmas, students will be provided with teaching, advice and support in order to allow them to complete their investigation to the best of their ability. However, a large proportion of the work needs to be done **independently** outside of lessons.

The dates below should be used as a guide for students to ensure that they are keeping up-to-date:

- **June/July 2023.** The Investigation has been outlined to all students. A detailed guide, published by the Royal Geographical Society www.rgs.org/nea, which provides details about how to go about an independent investigation will be made available. Students will be provided with some additional resources, including a mark scheme and a checklist. Further information is accessible via the Beaminster School Geography SharePoint and on Teams.
- **End of this Summer Term - Proposal Form.** Title identified and proposal form submitted. Planning of primary data collection (fieldwork) and background reading under way. Safety is very important, so it is vital that students consider the risks of collecting data in the field and minimise these as part of their planning, for example, do not do fieldwork alone, in hazardous weather or in unsafe areas e.g. under cliffs. Risk assessment has been explained in lessons and further information can be found on this link: [\(Area 1\) Introduction and Preliminary Research.pdf \(physicsandmathstutor.com\)](#)
- **Summer holidays and early September** Collection of primary and secondary data. Start to write up introduction (Area 1) and methodology (Area 2).
- **Friday 1st December 2023 First submission of investigation** (Areas 1, 2 completed and Areas 3, 4 underway). They will then receive feedback and have further time to make improvements.
- **Friday 19th January 2024 Final submission.** Our internal marks will be available by April.

Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

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