



April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 12 A-Level Geography Fieldwork Days – June 2026

We are writing to you regarding upcoming fieldwork days that are an essential part of your child's A Level Geography course. These will provide students with the fieldwork skills and ideas required to begin their Independent Geographical Enquiry (IGE). This is the coursework-style element that accounts for 20% of their overall grade and is submitted as an NEA. The outline of the week is summarised below:

Monday 08 June – Human Day (normal school day timings):

Students will visit Bristol's Harbourside and practice fieldwork skills that will help them understand the changes that the Harbourside has been through in recent times. This day will be led by Backwell staff. Students need to arrive at school at the normal time of 8.40am and will be back for the usual end time of 3.10pm. We will travel by public transport (X1 bus). The fare has been factored into the cost of the trip and tickets will be bought by the school.

Tuesday 09 June – Physical Day (normal school day timings):

Students will spend the day on the school grounds and around Backwell village practising fieldwork skills for a microclimate enquiry.

Wednesday 10 June – Physical Day (arrive in school by 8.20am):

Students will visit Nettlecombe Court and practice fieldwork skills that link to the water and carbon cycles. This day will be led by trained Field Studies Council (FSC) staff. **Students will need to arrive in school by 8:20am** for a prompt 08:30am departure and will **return to school by 6.00pm**.

Thursday 11 June – Physical Day (arrive in school by 8.20am):

Students will visit Porlock and practice fieldwork skills that link to coastal landscapes unit. This day will be led by trained FSC staff. **Students will need to arrive in school by 8:20am** for a prompt 08:30am departure and will **return to school by 6.00pm**.

Friday 12 June – Write up day (normal school timings):

This day will be based in school and students will spend the day thinking about the next steps of their IGE. They will investigate how the data they have collected over the previous few days can be presented and analysed. This will give them a framework and a starting point for their own investigations.

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Students are expected to attend all of the days outlined above. Teachers of their other subjects will be informed that they will be missing lessons that week, however they may ask for students to catch up on work missed.

Parents/Carers are asked to make a contribution of £197 towards the cost of these trips. To support with payments, we have broken up the payments into two instalments, as per the below schedule:

Instalment 1: £98 payable by Tuesday 05 May

Instalment 2: £99 payable by Monday 01 June

Please visit www.parentpay.com, the school's online cashless payment system by **Tuesday 05 May 2026** to give your consent and make the first payment.

Please note that these visits taking place are dependent upon receipt of sufficient contributions.

If you have any queries regarding ParentPay, please contact the Finance Team via email at finance@backwellschool.net.

In cases of financial assistance, please contact the Finance Team via email at finance@backwellschool.net who will be able to provide information regarding the 16-19 Bursary Fund. This is available to post-16 students who are in receipt of free school meals or whose Parents/Carers receive Child Tax Credit or Universal Credit.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Sales
Subject Leader for Geography