



Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to you with an update on the A-level Geography course. We are very close to completing the taught course of the specification and our attention turns to the coursework element.

The NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) is an essential part of the qualification and is worth 20% of the final A-level marks. In a 'normal' year, we would have gone away to a Field Studies Council centre and started the study there, however, the Covid protocols have meant we need to deliver this year's study in-house.

Today, the class spent 5 hours launching the NEA, having the structure outlined and beginning to construct a focus and enquiry question.

Please spend a few minutes this evening discussing your child's question with them.... There's some really interesting ones!

There are some very strict deadlines which must be adhered to in order to fulfil the requirements of the NEA. These are show below.

One key aspect of the NEA is the need to go and collect primary data in the form of fieldwork. All the students have got a clear idea as to where they now want to go to collect the information.

We are happy for students to miss 1 day of school in order to accommodate the need to collect their data if they are unable to do so at the weekend. Monday 29th November is an INSET day and presents the perfect opportunity for fieldwork. We need your authorisation to do this and a clear understanding that this day will be unsupervised and not under the jurisdiction of the school.

If you are not comfortable doing this, please let us know and we will work with your child on identifying a more suitable localised study. If you are happy for your child to complete their data collection on a school day, please could you email the Head of Geography, Mr McGrath giving at least 1 weeks' notice. We ask that your child identifies a day which will cause minimal disruption to their learning.

The next few weeks' worth of lessons will be spent working on the NEA, all the way up to the final deadline day.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Pete Whitehouse
Assistant Headteacher



Timings and deadlines:

9th November Introduction to the NEA – begin planning, introduction and research.

22nd Nov – 6th Dec Fieldwork / data collection

DEADLINES:

22nd November Planning, purpose and introduction

29th November Data, information collection methods and sampling framework

10th December Data presentation

17th January Data Analysis and explanation

31st January Conclusions and investigation evaluation and submission of draft NEA

17th February Final submission of NEA