



HARTON TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE



Established 1936

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Specialist Schools
and Academies Trust
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

COASTAL ENVIRONMENT VISIT JULY 2009.

Dear parent,

The Geography department of Harton Technology College as part of Activities Week intend to take Year 8 pupils to the Northumberland coastline in order to study the, 'Coastal Environment'. **There is no cost to parents for this activity and we are aiming for all pupils to take part.**

The fieldtrip will consist of a 4 mile walk where the children will study various coastal features. On their return to the classroom it is intended that the pupils will complete a follow up exercise on the development of Tourism in this area.

We are required to obtain parental permission and to gather any relevant medical information before considering the suitability of the event for all students. This field study will involve a 4 mile walk. It is mostly on flat ground but nevertheless will involve a degree of strenuous activity. It will also take the group away from the coach for up to three hours and much of the walk will be close to the sea. In planning the day we need to be aware of any medical conditions that may affect the performance of the student, and any other information that the parents would like us to take into account.

Please complete the slip below in order to indicate that you give your consent to your son/daughter taking part in this field visit. Please bear in mind the potential for inclement weather. Indicate if there is any medical condition that we should be aware of, or if your son/daughter is currently taking any medication. Students should know that pastoral staff will be consulted - we must be satisfied that all students can be fully trusted to behave accordingly.

Please note that students cannot take part in the activity without this completed and signed form.

If you do not wish your son/daughter to take part, simply enter 'NOT TAKING PART' across this page, sign and return.

Mr A Doneghan
Subject Leader for Geography



GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT: COASTAL ENVIRONMENT VISIT (JULY 2009)

Name of student _____ Form _____

Details of any medical conditions and /or medication being taken. (If none, write NONE)

I would like my son/daughter to take part in the field visit to Low Newton. I have explained the need for exemplary behaviour to him/her and I am satisfied that he/she will do everything possible to make the visit enjoyable for all concerned.

Signed (parent) _____ Date _____

More specific detail about the field excursion :

To the student (and also further details for parents)

By now you should know if you are going on the field trip or not. There are some specific details to be aware of.

- **What is this field visit about ?** – You are a student of Geography. A study of the coastal environment is an important part of your course. We are lucky to have the magnificent Northumberland coastline so close to us. This full day visit will include a 4 mile walk and we will study many of the features at first hand. This is a splendid place to visit and a superb opportunity to enliven your studies.
- **Times** – on the day of the field trip arrive at school at your usual time to be ready for a **9.00** departure. The coach will be at the Lisle Road vehicle entrance to the school. Do not go to your form room – you will be registered on the coach. If you are late and miss the coach, report to the school office where you will be told what to do. We hope to be back at school by **4.30** pm.
- **Travel** – we have booked a coach to take us to Low Newton. The journey will take about 1 ½ hours. We will be away from the coach (on the walk) for around 3 hours.
- **Cost** – There is no cost involved.
- **Dress** – you do not have wear school uniform. The day before the field trip keep an eye on the weather forecast and remember that the walk will take you away from the coach for 3 hours. We will be on the North East coast - it could be hot, raining, cold, windy, or even all of them at the same time ! Strong footwear will be essential for the walk. Walking boots would be ideal. It could be wet and muddy underfoot and at times you may be walking on wet rocks. Wellingtons are not suitable. Take also a change of footwear and socks for the coach and a carrier bag in which to put your dirty walking shoes. You will be asked to remove walking shoes before getting back on the coach. Your trousers could also get wet and dirty. If rain is likely you should have a waterproof coat.
- **Meals** - take packed lunches for the day but avoid fizzy drinks and too much chocolate. On school trips, students are regularly sick due to over indulgence. If you do tend to suffer from travel sickness, be prepared. Lunch will be taken in the field so you will need a small rucksack. There will be a scheduled toilet stop on the way there where you can buy something to eat/drink. A thermos flask of hot tea is ideal for the lunch break.
- **Behaviour** – the trip has been allowed to go ahead on the understanding that your behaviour, both on the coach and on the walk, is exemplary.

On the coach - the coach company has requested that students are seated at all times and that the driver be allowed to do his job without too much background noise. If you want to listen to music, take your own with headphones. Students will be asked to take their own litter home with them, both from the bus and the walk. Any student who does not wish to be asked to pick up their litter should not drop it.

On the walk - there are places on the walk where accidents could easily happen. You **MUST** – wait for teacher permission to cross the roads. You **MUST** stay with the party at all times and not wander off. Footbridges should be crossed by one pedestrian at a time. We will have lunch at a glorious beauty spot by the sand dunes. Suitable respect for the location and for other country walkers should be shown and the leaving of litter should be out of the question.

The school has a long tradition of successful field visits. Any student who puts the smooth running of the visit in jeopardy will be immediately taken back to the coach. Parents will be informed on return and the student will take no further part in any fieldwork. In the planning of the field trip your school behaviour will be taken into account. If the staff feel that they cannot trust you, you will not be allowed to take part.

- **Smoking** – obviously, smoking is out of the question. Any student who feels that they cannot follow this instruction should respectfully decline to attend so that inevitable conflict with staff can be avoided.
- **Your own organisation** – you are the only one who knows what your personal requirements are. On the days before the field trip take time to prepare. Make sure you have everything you will want to take. Consult with your parents about concerns that you may have. Read this sheet carefully and be aware of exactly what you are doing. On the night before pack your bag and have everything ready to pick up in the morning. Make sure that you are not late.
- **Follow up** – will be in Geography lessons following the field trip.