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Dear Parent/ Carer,

GCSE Geography Fieldwork – Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd April.

As part of the AQA GCSE Paper 3, students are asked to answer questions based on some experienced fieldwork, relating to both human and physical Geography. In order to support the students in this aspect of the exam, a day of fieldwork has been arranged to allow students to experience collecting fieldwork data first hand.

The students will leave school at 9.15 and be taken by coach (Stanley coaches) to Seaham, where we will take some measurements of the beach and complete some field sketches of the cliffs. The group will then be taken back to Chester le Street and dropped off in the Market square. They will then be asked to complete some fieldwork in Front Street, before the whole group walks back up to school to arrive just before the end of the normal school day. The students will be accompanied by three members of Hermitage staff whilst on the fieldwork, both on the beach and whilst in Front Street.

The four groups will be split over the two days and students only need to attend one of the fieldwork days:

Monday 22nd April – Mrs Ford's and Miss Powell's classes Tuesday 23rd April – Mr Ward's and Mr Rowel's classes

Please note, for students that have a foreign language exam on the day of the fieldwork, they will join the other group.

The students will be out all day, so suitable clothing is needed. This must be warm as it could be quite cold and windy, especially on the beach, and also suitable for walking on a beach. We suggest sturdy walking shoes or trainers. To confirm, school uniform is not required. For lunch the students will be given some time on returning to Chester le Street to have their lunch, this could be a packed lunch or if they wish to purchase lunch in Front Street, that can be done while carrying out their data collection.

This will be a great opportunity for students to carry out fieldwork to give them the first hand understanding of the methods used and some of the issues there are in conducting fieldwork, all important elements of being able to answer questions in paper 3.

Mr Ward (Head of Geography)

