



Great Marlow School

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Dear Parent/Carer

A Level Geography fieldtrip: Friday 12th September – Monday 15th September 2025

Early next term we will be leaving for our A Level Geography fieldtrip to North Yorkshire and I am writing to provide further important information to ensure the trip runs as smoothly as possible. Firstly, may I thank you for your support of this trip, which will give your son/daughter an extremely valuable learning opportunity as they prepare for their A level geography individual investigation (NEA coursework) and their final exams.

Enclosed with this letter is induction information provided by the Cranedale Centre and I would ask you to go through this carefully with your son/daughter, to ensure that he/she is suitably prepared to get the most out of the trip. I would like particularly to draw your attention to the rules relating to smoking/vaping and alcohol/drug possession or consumption. *Any student found in possession or under the influence of these items will be removed from the fieldtrip and you will be required to collect them.* This has never been an issue in the past and I am certain there will not be this year, but I feel it is important to make this clear from the outset and I thank you for your support here.

The induction information includes a list of clothing and equipment required for the trip. We will provide sufficient paper, clipboards and other fieldwork equipment, but your son/daughter should bring their own folder, pens, pencils and a calculator (as they would usually for school). We will be outdoors for the majority of each day and so it is essential that all students are suitably clothed - layers of warm clothing for Yorkshire in early autumn. Our luggage space is likely to be limited so please use soft luggage bags and keep the size to a minimum. I must also highlight the fact that neither Great Marlow School nor the Cranedale Centre can be held responsible for any valuables that students choose to bring. If anything has changed since you completed the MS Consent Form for the trip, please can you email me directly on vcoates@gms.bucks.sch.uk.

Our coach will leave Great Marlow School **promptly on Friday 12th September**, as we have a tight schedule upon arrival in North Yorkshire. **Please ensure your son/daughter arrives at school by 6.15 am at the very latest.** We expect to arrive back at Great Marlow School by **6.00 pm on Monday 15th September**, but this is dependent on traffic conditions.

Finally, should you need to contact me at any time during the trip, (in an emergency) the number for the Cranedale Centre is 01944 738687 and their website is www.cranedale.com. There will also be a school mobile number that we will ask students to let you know once we are on the trip.

Thank you once again for your support.

Yours faithfully,
Miss V Coates, Second in Department of Geography

Cranedale - A-Level Induction Information

Your field course at the Cranedale Centre will be commencing soon and we look forward to welcoming you here for an enjoyable and productive stay. You may be unsure of what to expect, so the information in these pages will help you make the most of your field course. Please remember that you, Great Marlow School and the Cranedale Centre have made a big commitment in terms of time and money towards the success of your course, and this maybe your only opportunity to carry out this sort of work. In order to ensure that commitment is rewarded we do need to insist upon certain standards.

The Working Routine

The course programme will have been arranged in advance with your school. You may focus on a single topic during the day or it maybe two or three topics. The content has been carefully selected by your teacher to ensure you get the most educational value from the field trip. The working day may be longer than you are used to – it starts at 9:15 am and after breaks for meals and some free time, finishes around 8:30 pm in the evening. We go out in virtually all weather conditions and will be out all day, so please ensure you have appropriate clothing. Late afternoon and evening sessions involve analysis and interpretation of the fieldwork data. There will probably be other courses running in the Centre at the same time and often several smaller courses work together

Free Time

Under normal circumstances you will have a short break (up to 1 hour) on your return to the Centre in the afternoon. You will also have free time from the end of your evening work session to spend in the games/common room until you are expected to be in your room by 10.15 pm with lights out at 11 pm.

The Centre must ensure certain standards of safety and hygiene throughout your time with us and consequently we must insist on some things:

1. Students must remain on Centre premises.
2. **No alcohol / drugs may be brought to the Centre or consumed during your stay.**
3. **There must be no smoking/vaping.**
4. No chewing gum is allowed. Students are asked to refrain from buying it and bringing it onto the premises.
5. Students must return to their own bedrooms by 10.15 pm and be quiet with lights out at 11 pm. Experience shows that lack of sleep and tiredness can have a detrimental effect on the course. Please don't allow your course to be devalued in this way.

Accommodation and Meals

The Centre is located in converted farm buildings in a small village. All bedrooms have central heating and washbasins and could have up to 6 beds per room. Toilets and showers are available in adjacent blocks. Keys are provided so that your room may be locked while you are out in the field. However, the Centre cannot be responsible for your belongings and you may wish to insure, or not bring, valuable items. Care should be taken with all Centre equipment and breakages must be reported immediately. The Centre has a Common Room with table tennis and table football facilities, in addition to a board games cupboard. There is also a television which is available on request for viewing special events, e.g. sports fixtures. The Centre has an all-weather tennis court/outdoor play area and soft tennis balls and soft footballs are available for use until 9 pm. Unfortunately, due to the proximity of windows we cannot allow hard/leather football or rugby balls, so please do not bring these balls with you.

Breakfast is at 8 am each day and the evening meal is at 6 pm. Please inform us if you have a special dietary requirement or food allergies. This information must reach us at least 3 weeks before your visit so that our catering team has plenty of time to place special orders and prepare. **Your teacher has copies**

of our Special Dietary Request Form which you will need to fill in and return to us. The Centre prepares a packed lunch for each student and you are asked to bring a water bottle to ensure you have enough drink in the field. If you are visiting the Centre during the colder months, you are also advised to bring a small thermos flask for a hot drink. This will be filled for you each day by our catering team however please note that the contents will be extremely hot so take care and do not open until lunchtime. The Centre operates a NUT FREE policy and all students and teachers are asked not to bring nuts or products containing nuts onto the premises please.

Safety And Behaviour

The Centre maintains a strong commitment to safety and the Centre tutors are very safety conscious. Please help us by adhering strictly to any safety warnings issued and by behaving responsibly at all times. This is essential for the safety of all concerned and tutors may curtail activities if they feel safety is being compromised. You will be expected to behave in a courteous and respectful manner to tutors and other Centre staff, just as you would at school or college. All Centre minibuses are fitted with seatbelts, which must be used.

And finally... enjoy yourselves!

Most of our visitors are pleasantly surprised at the high standard of accommodation, food and tuition the Centre provides. Although the course is demanding, it is also fun, and if you bear in mind the points made here you will have a great time and learn a great deal too. We look forward to welcoming you to the Cranedale Centre soon.

WHAT TO BRING:

Stationery:

Please bring your own pens, pencils, sharpeners, rulers etc, calculator and your Cranedale Folder.

Clothing & Bedding:

Bed linen will be provided by the Centre but please bring your own towels, soap and toiletries. You must be equipped for cold and wet conditions whatever the time of year. The following list is an indication of what to bring for outdoor work:

- Waterproof Jacket (with hood) and Waterproof Trousers
- Outdoor walking/hiking shoes or Boots and Wellington boots
- Warm layers/fleece tops
- Thick Warm Trousers
- Long sleeved T-shirts
- Day Rucksack
- Sun Hat and Sun protection
- Thick Socks
- Indoor Shoes

The Cranedale Centre does have a stock of waterproof jackets, trousers and wellington boots for loan, but we strongly recommend you bring your own if possible. You will need indoor shoes and change of clothes for time spent in the Centre.

Drinks:

Students should bring a water bottle (min 500 ml) for use in the field. If you would like a hot drink to take out with you after breakfast each day, please also bring a small 300-500ml flask. The Centre does have a

vending machine on site where you can purchase water bottles for £1 (coins only) but there are no other shops or services nearby.

Medication:

Please ensure that you bring with you any medication that you might need (including asthma inhalers, EpiPens etc) as the Centre does not hold, nor can administer medication.

Miscellaneous:

There is a mobile phone signal for the majority of networks at the Centre and free wireless broadband access is available in most areas of the Centre. Students may wish to bring a small amount of money (£10) or debit card to buy sweets, souvenirs or an ice cream at Scarborough!