



South Dartmoor Community College

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Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.



2 May 2024

Dear Parent / Carer

WeST 6th Form Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) Launch Day **Plymouth University, Tuesday 14 May 2024**

This year, the entire cohort of WeST A level geographers from our 7 Secondary Schools will be descending upon the University of Plymouth Geography Department to spend a day considering the Non Examined Assessment section of their A level. This enquiry structured investigation is worth 20% of the final exam mark allocation. If completed thoroughly and insightfully, it has the real potential to achieve all of those percentage points, as full marks are not infrequently awarded to high quality investigations. There are, however, essential considerations and processes that need to be understood before the students set off on their own to complete the most classic of geography exercises; their projects (NEAs)! As this includes more than just sharp colouring pencils and images from google earth, there is a whole day of expert instruction and advice planned.

The beginning of the day will be delivered by our own WeST NEA national moderator Nicola Dowling and local topic examples will be introduced by Ivybridge based Dr Jim White. The afternoon sessions include workshops run by the University of Plymouth Geography staff. The timings are as follows:

09.00-09:15	Arrival	
09:25		Welcome by Richard Yarwood
09.30 – 10.15	Talk 1	Rolle 018: Introduction to NEA (DWL)
10.15 – 10.30	Break	
10.30 – 11.15	Talk 2	Rolle 018: Opportunities for a Human Geography NEA (WHT)
11.15 – 12.00	Talk 3	Rolle 018: Opportunities for a Physical Geography NEA (WHT)
12.00 – 12.30	Lunch	
12.30 – 13.10	Session 1	Rolle 018 – NEA examples (DWL) Rolle 117 – Creating a suitable title (WHT) LabPlus – delivered by university
13.10 – 13.50	Session 2	Rolle 018 – NEA examples (DWL) Rolle 117 – Creating a suitable title (WHT) LabPlus - delivered by university
13.50 – 14.30	Session 3	Rolle 018 – NEA examples (DWL) Rolle 117 – Creating a suitable title (WHT) LabPlus - delivered by university
14.30 – 14.45	Close	All return to Rolle 018 (DWL)
14.45	Depart	Return to SDCC as soon as possible (3:30-3:45?)

Students will be travelling to and from school by minibus, accompanied by myself, and will need to take regular class materials with them, especially lined paper and pencils/pens. A packed lunch will be necessary as there is only a 30-minute break for lunch and so excursions to Plymouth's finest eateries will not be logistically possible.

Parking for the minibus will be a walk away from the Rolle Building where the lecture theatre is located and therefore weather appropriate clothing would be recommended. Drop off at school needs to be by 8:15am and return to school will be dependent on traffic out of Plymouth. As the A38 can throw occasional delays, though, I would like you to think of ways in which your child might be able to get home, as there is a high chance of them not reaching the school bus departure time.

Consent will be required via ParentPay, and a voluntary contribution of £7 requested to cover the cost of the transport.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hodges

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