



# South Dartmoor Community College

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*Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.*



27 January 2026

Dear Parent / Carer

## **Year 11 Geography Field trip to Dawlish Warren 9 March 2026**

As part of the AQA GCSE Geography syllabus, students need to carry out practical fieldwork in the Human and Physical environment, as field research is a core element of the geography curriculum. The application of research skills learnt in class in real world context helps bring meaning to those techniques and greater understanding of the topics researched.

I write to inform you of our Physical Geography fieldwork excursion to Dawlish Warren to review the need for, and impact of, hard and soft engineering strategies to protect the coastline.

- Reviewing and recording erosional, transportation and depositional processes
- Recording qualitative and quantitative information relating to the variety of management techniques
- Recording quantitative data on the beach to determine the impact on groynes on coastal process.

Students will be required to wear appropriate clothing for the time of year and weather forecast, and footwear to walk on sand (no flip-flops or Crocs). They also need to carry research equipment (clipboards, pen/pencil, work booklets) throughout the day in a weather resistant bag, as work will not stop if it rains.

Students will have their lunch break (length determined on the day) on the seafront at Dawlish Warren. They will be required to bring a packed lunch and a drink (this will be provided to those who are eligible). The lunch period will be free time, but students must remain in a minimum group of 3 at all times, have access to a mobile phone within their group and adhere strictly to the instruction regarding behaviour and meeting times. Should students fail to meet the high standards of behaviour and engagement in work that we expect, they will be collected by minibus and returned to lessons in SDCC. A mobile phone number will be issued on the day for students to contact staff members.

On the day, students will need to meet on the ground floor of the JMB at 8:40am where they will be registered and prepared to leave by bus by 9am. We will return to school before the end of the school day for students to get their normal bus home at 3:15pm.

We are excited to offer this opportunity, which promises to be both educational and enjoyable. We have worked hard to keep this as affordable as possible but to help cover the cost of travel to and from Dawlish Warren there is a charge of £11.34. This is a voluntary contribution; however, we will not be able to go ahead with the trip if sufficient funds are not raised. That said, we do not wish for payment to be a barrier to anyone attending, so please contact Reception if you need support in this respect. Consent for students to attend the trip and payment can be completed online through the ParentPay process. To aid administration and preparation for the trip we ask that the consent and payment is completed by Friday 6 March 2026.

Yours sincerely,  
Stephanie Russell  
Manager of Geography

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