Sandringham School
'Everybody can be Somebody'

Ambition Education Trust

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Letter No: 079/2026

5th November 2026

Dear Families,

Year 12 Biology Field Trip 2027
Sunday 25th April – Tuesday 27th April

We would like to invite your child to a 3-day residential field trip to PGL at Osmington Bay, Dorset. As part of the Biology A-level, students are required to experience teaching and learning opportunities that involve regular practical work. A minimum of 12 required practical activities contribute to the practical endorsement element of the A-level qualification (graded as pass or fail) and will also be assessed through the written examinations. This means that they could be asked questions on them in either of the three written papers.

One of these required practical activities requires fieldwork to investigate the effect of environmental factors on species distribution. We have chosen PGL's Osmington Bay to conduct the fieldwork due to the coastal location providing investigation opportunities that include sand dunes and rocky shores.

The courses are run by staff at the centre that have experience of the AQA exam board specification requirements and knowledge of the locations in the area to carry out the investigations. In addition to the fieldwork, our group will have designated classrooms where they will be taught the necessary skills for processing their data and writing their reports.

The expectation will be that the fieldwork will be fully completed during the time away. The details for the trip are:

Location: PGL Osmington Bay, Dorset
Dates: Sunday 25th April – Tuesday 27th April 2027
Departure: Approximately 8am
Return: Approximately 4pm
Transport: Return travel by coach, with the coach available for local transport for the duration of the stay.
Accommodation: Chalets accommodating up to 4 students in en-suite rooms.

The total cost of the trip is **£339** which includes accommodation, meals and a voluntary contribution for travel. If insufficient students are prepared to pay the voluntary contribution, then the trip may have to be cancelled for all students.

The cost of the trip is payable in 2 instalments. **The deposit of £189 is due by 27th November 2026 and the final payment of £150 is due by 1st February 2027.** Please make your payment via ParentPay. If your child is in receipt of the Year 12 bursary, the trip will be covered by this.

More details will be available nearer the time, but if you would like more information about the field centre, this can be found using the following link:

http://www.pgl.co.uk/en-gb/school-trips/secondary-schools/combined?lid=195&pid=93

We feel this residential trip will be hugely beneficial to the Year 12 students in terms of the practical endorsement and written examinations, and will offer an interesting and stimulating coastal environment in which they can together benefit from the opportunities fieldwork provides.

Participation in this trip is subject to good conduct in school prior to the trip taking place. If any student's behaviour or attitude is in question and they are removed from the trip due to their conduct, any monies paid to date will not be refunded.

The school holds travel insurance through the Department for Education Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which provides cover in case of travel disruption, medical issues and other emergencies. This insurance does not cover any personal items including money, phones, gadgets and clothing in case of loss, damage or theft.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Simmonds
Director of Learning: Biology