



THE DOWNS SCHOOL

COMPTON, NEWBURY, BERKSHIRE RG20 6AD

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Head: C R Prosser, BSc

Deputy Head: C A Butler, BSc, MPhil

Deputy Head: J Preston, BA



21 September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 10 BTEC Countryside and Environment Visits – Autumn/Spring Terms 2016-2017

I would like to welcome you to COEN. During the course students study agricultural practices and the use of the countryside. The course is an applied vocational course and requires practical teaching, giving students the 'real' experience developing their skills in a range of areas.

As part of this course, the students will participate in a range of visits and trips to help with their understanding of the theoretical elements of the course as well as gaining valuable experience that will enable them to develop practical skills.

The dates of the trips are:

- 4 October Rushall Farm 9am-3.15pm
- 6 December Sheepdrove 9am-3.15pm
- 20 January Sheepdrove 9am-3.15pm
- 27 January Greenham Common 9.30am-3.15pm
- 21 February Sheepdrove 9am-3.15pm
- 4 May Greenham 9am-3.15pm

For all visits students are required to wear sensible warm clothing and will need to bring waterproofs in the event of it being a wet day. Students also need to bring a change of clothes and shoes. **They will need a pair of wellington boots for all visits.**

These visits are compulsory, however we ask for a contribution of **£57** to cover the cost of transport and insurance for **all** trips. If there are insufficient funds to cover the costs, these trips may not be able to go ahead. This amount is non-refundable unless the trips are cancelled by the school. FSM/EVER6FSM or LIFT students have already been identified but please return the slip below.

You can pay for this using Parent Pay. If you do not wish to use ParentPay then please put cheque payments in an envelope marked "Year 10 COEN Visits", taking care to enclose the completed slip below. Your child is then responsible for putting this into the secure, finance office post box. Please make cheques payable to The Downs School. Payments should be made **by Friday 30 September.**

All students will have already completed an annual consent form for off-site learning and this will be used for permission for your son/daughter to take part in all of these events. You must inform me if any information changes between now and the date of the trips.

Although this trip is open to Year 10 CoEn students, we reserve the right to refuse to take those students whose poor behaviour may tarnish the good name of The Downs School or, on this kind of activity visit, may put themselves or others in danger.

The school has personal accident and travel cover insurance for school trips. Full details are available from the Business Manager on request.

I hope this will be an interesting and rewarding year for the COEN students. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully

S. Miller-Cook

Mrs S. Miller-Cook
Trip Leader

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PAYMENT SLIP

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP WITH YOUR PAYMENT OR IF YOU ARE A FSM/EVER6FSM OR LIFT STUDENT

**YEAR 10 COEN VISITS 2016-17
PAYMENT DUE BY FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

Student's Name..... Tutor Group

I enclose payment of £57

My child is registered EVER6FSM / FSM / LIFT (please circle) no payment required

Signed.....(Parent/Carer) Date.....

Name (please print).....