

7th March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer/Guardian,

RE: Polar Environments Day at Royal Holloway University on March 31st 2022

I am delighted to be able to inform you of an exciting super curricular opportunity for your son/daughter to participate in a Polar Environments Day at Royal Holloway on March 31st, organised by the Geography Department there. The focus is very much on widening participation and engaging our students with the polar/environmental sciences. The day will involve a series of inspirational lectures from a diverse range of exciting speakers, from institutions like RHUL, the British Antarctic Survey, University of Cardiff, University of Liverpool, Scott Polar Research Institute. There will also be an exciting exhibition, with exhibitors ranging from the Quaternary Research Association, UK Polar Network, BAS, exhibitions on polar mammals and sea ice, plastic in the arctic, polar geopolitics and much more. There should be opportunities to speak with scientists and people working in Antarctica.

The day ties in with the school's ethos of curiosity, growth and thriving and promises to be very interesting, specifically targeting **year 9 and year 12 students** and there are up to 15 spaces for each year group. It ties in very well with the GCSE and A Level Cold Environments Units. **Participation on the day for year 9 will be decided on a first come first served basis, all Year 12 students will be expected to attend.** If your Year 9 child would like to attend the day, please sign the form below and return it direct to Mr Newell in D57. He will be available before school, during break and lunchtime. Reply slips must be handed in personally.

There is no cost for the day.

Registration time for the event will be 09.30 registration, ready for talks to begin at 10 am so we will be leaving school at 8.30am. We will travel to Royal Holloway in minibuses: Mrs Hastings with the year 12 group and Mr Newell with Mr Hastings as the driver, will be with the year 9 group. After the polar day finishes at approximately 15.40, there will be a campus tour for those year 9 and 12 students who want one. The tour should last about an hour and will include a tour of the Geography Department the Founders HA, and the sports hall. Students who do not wish to attend the tour will return to school by approximately 16.30, whereas those who attend the tour will return to school between 5.30 – 6.00pm, dependent upon traffic. Unless all students opt for the tour, there will be a maximum of 15 able to attend, due to the number of seats in each minibus.

The university will be able to provide a sandwich lunch for all attendees and will provide a range of vegan/vegetarian/gluten free options. If your child has any other specific dietary requirements, please identify them on the reply slip below.

Mr Newell and I look forward to receiving your child's reply slip and we will inform the pupils whether they have been successful or will be on the reserve list.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs H. Hastings
Geography Department

Year 9 students: Please return your reply slip to Mr Newell direct to secure your place. He is based in D57.

Parent / Carer / Guardian of: Form:

Year 9

- I confirm receipt of the Polar Activity Day Letter at Royal Holloway on March 31st and request that my child be considered for the trip.
- I understand that places will be awarded on a first come first serve basis.
- Should my child not be in the first 15, I would like them to go on the reserve list in the event of someone giving up their place. Yes /No
- I would like my child to attend the university tour after the main day's activities YES/NO Please circle preference
- **Additional dietary requirements to the options above to be taken into account are:**

.....
Signed..... Date

Year 12 students. Please complete and return your reply slip to Mrs Hastings in D58.

Parent/Guardian/Carer of: Form:

- I confirm receipt of the Polar Activity Day Letter at Royal Holloway on March 31st and give permission for my child to attend.
- I would like my child to attend the tour after the main day's activities. YES / NO Please circle your preference.
- **Additional dietary requirements to the options above to be taken into account are:**

Signed _____ Date _____