

15 July 2026

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: Year 12 Biology Fieldwork

Once the AS content in Biology has been completed, we will be starting to teach the A Level content of the Biology specification. The first topic that we study is "Populations and Ecosystems". As you may be aware the A-level specification requires that students complete specific practical activities, which include ecological field investigations.

For this practical activity we choose to focus on coastal ecology, which is better visited in summer. This will involve 1 day studying the ecology of a rocky shore located at Burniston, north of Scarborough.

The date for the fieldwork this year will be Wednesday 23 September 2026. We will be travelling by school minibus and will leave school at approximately 9 am, and we will meet in E15. We plan to return to school before the end of the school day.

Your child will need to be prepared with appropriate clothing for poor weather; even if it is sunny in Driffield the weather at the coast can change quickly (a list of suggested equipment is attached). Please make sure that you come in suitable, sturdy footwear to be climbing across slippery, unstable rocks, and be prepared with a change of footwear in case you step in the rock pools / get wet. Students will also require a packed lunch for the day. Please indicate on the consent form if your child is eligible for free school meals and requires a packed lunch providing.

Please would you complete the consent form via the following link by 12 noon on Friday 17 July: [Year 12 Biology Fieldwork Visit, Burniston, 23 September 2026 – Fill out form.](#) We ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of the trip, which is £7.00. This covers the cost of transportation by the school minibuses. Please also make this payment by 12 noon on Friday 17 July via ParentPay. Please note, the visit may not go ahead if the costs are not covered.

As the activities completed on this fieldwork cover a major part of the A-level specification and contribute to the awarding of their Practical Skills Verification student participation is important. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs S Wild
Head of Biology

On the Seashore:

- Warm and windproof clothing – bring layers as the temperature can change quickly
- Long sleeved clothing to avoid sunburn and excessive exposure
- Waterproof clothing as we will be on the beach even if it is raining!!
- Wellies or waterproof walking boots/trainers to wear on the beach - need to have good tread (change of footwear and socks for travelling back from the beach in case you step in a rock pool!)
- Sun cream, sunglasses and hat
- Small bag or rucksack to carry food, spare clothing and clipboard. Take a plastic bin bag to cover your rucksack if it is raining.
- Clipboard and clear plastic bag to cover it (to be able write under it if it is raining)
- Pens, pencils, calculator
- Food and water – there is nowhere to buy any food (or any toilets!) on the beach