

September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Geography trip to Sorrento, Italy (25 March - 29 March 2027)

The Geography Department is organising a trip to Sorrento during the 2027 Easter Holiday for our KS4 students. This is an extra-curricular trip that has been organised to engage students and offer an opportunity for them to experience a range of geographical processes.

We will be leaving from Goldington Academy on the morning of Thursday, 25 March 2027 and will return in the evening on Monday, 29 March 2027 (exact times will be confirmed later). We will travel to Luton/Gatwick Airport by coach and will fly to Naples before travelling to Sorrento where we will be based.

Planned itinerary: Day 1 (Travel to Naples)

- Fly from Luton to Naples (Approximately 2 hours 45 minutes)
- Walking tour of Naples and a guided tour of the underground cisterns
- Evening meal in the hotel

Day 2 (Agrifarm, ice cream and lemon grove visit)

- Visit to Agritourism Galatea- a small family run farm which produces their own selection of fruits, mozzarella, olive oils and meat using produce grown and raised on their own land. We will visit the animals and walk through the farm to see the produce followed by students making their own pizza lunch made up of fresh produce from the farm
- Ice-cream demonstration and tasting on Corso Italia
- Lemon grove tour and tasting
- Evening meal in the hotel

Day 3 (Vesuvius and Pompeii)

- Travel by coach to Mount Vesuvius, classed as potentially one of the most dangerous active volcanoes. Walk around the crater of the volcano and take in the amazing sights of Naples
- Visit Pompeii, a once thriving and sophisticated Roman city. Pompeii was buried in meters of ash and pumice after the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D, killing 3000 people whilst the rest of the population (20,000) had already fled.
- Evening meal in the hotel

Day 4 (Island tour of Capri)

- Visit Capri - travel via hydrofoil to the island of Capri, visiting the cliffs, fissures and caves on the island on a boat. Ride the funicular/ bus/ walk to see the stunning views across Capri.

Day 5 (Free time in Sorrento and departure)

- Morning will include free time for shopping in Sorrento with opportunities to buy gifts and souvenirs – dependent on flight time
- Flight home to London Luton/ Gatwick Airport from Naples

The cost of the trip will be no more than £1150, which includes the cost of travel to and from Luton/Gatwick airport; return flights to Naples; baggage supplement (15kgs); coach hire whilst in Italy; 4 nights' accommodation; all meals including a packed lunch; insurance and all activities whilst in Italy. The only costs not included in the total above will be spending money should students wish to buy souvenirs or additional food and water. All students will need a passport valid for 6 months from the date of departure and a current GHIC card.

There are a maximum of 40 students' spaces on the trip so – dependant on interest – we anticipate that the visit is likely to be oversubscribed. To this end, we may well take school behaviour records into account, given that we will require students to act responsibly and maturely. In the case of too many students per place, we will go through a process of random selection ("names from a hat") for places.

If you are interested in your child participating in our geography department trip, please register your interest by paying £150 non-refundable deposit by Monday, 29 September. We will ensure further information is sent to you, if your child is successful in gaining a place. All deposits will be refunded if your child is not successful in getting a place. The remaining balance will need to be paid in equal monthly instalments, further guidance of which will be provided once students have been selected.

Payment Schedule

Deposit – £150 by 30 September 2025

Please note that if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding (Free School Meals at present or Free School Meals within the last 6 years or Previously/Looked After Child), you may be able to receive Pupil Premium funding towards the cost of school trips. Please contact Mr Roopnarain to discuss this further (roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk) A non-refundable deposit of £150 will still be required to secure a place.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please contact me by email at parmark@goldington.beds.sch.uk . We will have a parent consultation meeting closer to the departure date for students attending the trip.

Yours sincerely

Ms K Parmar

Geography Teacher