[redacted]

To whom it may concern

As a qualified geography teacher, and currently working in the capacity as Field study tutor at the Burren outdoor education and training centre and an employee of Limerick and Clare education and training board (LCETB)myself and my colleague have been using Cregg beach as a site for Leaving certificate fieldwork for the last 21 years and more.

Leaving certificate students who take geography as an exam subject must do a field work project which equates to 20% of their overall result for the subject of geography. This year's present fifth year students will experience a huge increase in the value of the fieldwork section to their senior geography course as fieldwork projects are going to account for 40% of their coursework.

We have used Cregg beach as it is an excellent site for students to gather data on coastal erosion and deposition features and to study change over time at this site.

We help schools from all over the country, from Cork to Dublin and everywhere in between, to investigate this section of coastline in county Clare. Each year from the end of August to mid-November and from the midterm in February to the middle of May, we visit Cregg beach daily with groups. Group sizes may vary from an individual class size of thirty to a maximum of sixty students daily.

The spin off from these visiting groups also effects on the local economy from purchasing lunch in supermarket to hot beverages in the local cafes. Groups may add on to their trip by including the cliffs of Moher or Doolin cave visits to their trip.

The impact of not having access to this location for the field studies would have an enormous impact on what we as educators can offer these Leaving certificate students in the future. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

25/10/2026