

## Before you come to MVC - Preparing for your NEA

Get the most out of your time with the Medina Valley Centre with these top tips:

Spend some time thinking about the area of the specification that interests you most and then check - is it possible to study this topic or idea on the island?

Don't worry if you do not have a firm title in mind - once you have visited your field site(s) you will feel more confident about forming one.

Read up about different data collection techniques and especially the different surveys you might design. Create a 'menu' of methods to choose from.

Have a play around with GIS through ArcGIS. Get to know what it does and how you might be able to present data in different ways.

Read up about or revise the various well-known theories and models that are associated with your chosen area of study.

Look through the resources on the MVC website to get a feel for the kind of work you will be doing.

Look into the social and physical history of your fieldwork sites through web based research.

Familiarise yourself with the fieldwork sites in which you will be working. Find an OS map and photographs of the area to develop your spatial understanding of them.

Talk to students at your school or college who have visited the field sites before and see what they made of them.

As you are preparing for the field trip, write down any interesting research questions that come into your mind - one of them may end up being your NEA title.