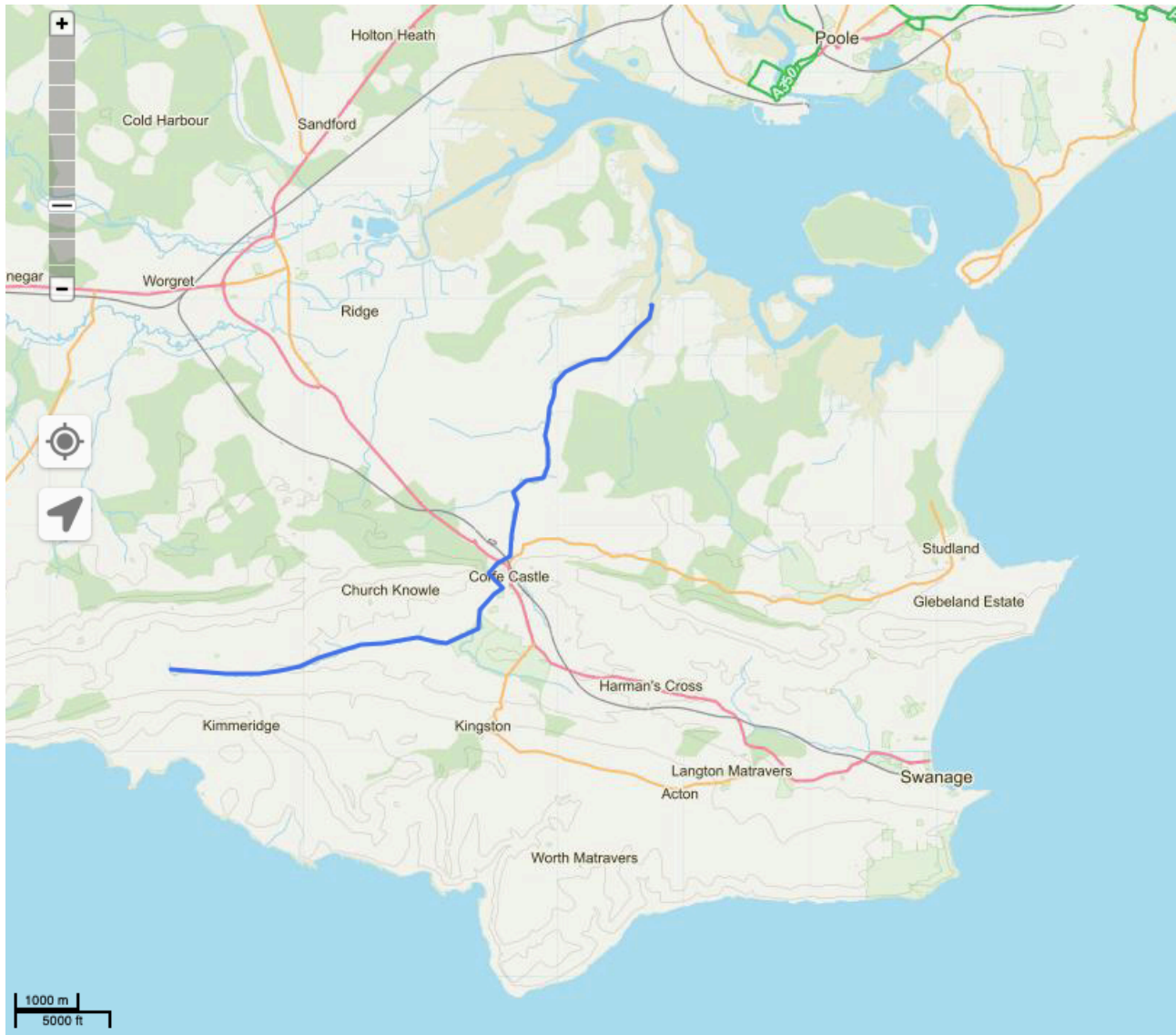


## The West Corfe River - a virtual field study.



The West Corfe River has its source near the abandoned farm of North Egliston on the Lulworth Army training ranges. If you were allowed to get to the source and walk westwards you would reach the sea near Kimmeridge Bay in just over 1.5km, but the West Corfe River heads eastwards and travels for 11km to its mouth in Poole Harbour.

I visited the West Corfe River in 8 different locations along its length from near the source to the mouth.

The measurements that I collected will help you understand how this river changes along its length.

**Map activity.**

The first task is to plot our 8 different field study sites onto the detailed map provided using the grid references (co-ordinates).

**West Corfe River field study locations**

| Site number | Grid reference |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1           | SY 913 805     |
| 2           | SY 935 811     |
| 3           | SY 943 812     |
| 4           | SY 955 816     |
| 5           | SY 958 819     |
| 6           | SY 957 822     |
| 7           | SY 966 847     |
| 8           | SY 967 855     |

**Photographs activity.**

You will be given a set of 8 photographs that show each of the 8 sites along the West Corfe River.

Site 1 and Site 8 are easily identified because I am holding up a card which tells you where I am.



Site 1 - close to the source of the river. Looking downstream - the river is in the line of trees behind me



Site 8 - close to the mouth of the river. Looking across to the wide floodplain and the river as it starts to enter Poole Harbour.

The other 6 sites however are not so easy - can you put them in the correct order?

**Predictions activity.**

The next task is to make some predictions about how the West Corfe River will change from site 1, near the source, to site 8, close to the mouth.

One has been done for you already:

The West Corfe River will get wider from site 1 to site 8.

**Testing your predictions using data from fieldwork.**

In order to test your predictions you will need data from fieldwork.

You will have already watched the video “How to measure a river with Barry and Ben, The Geography Men”.

This video shows you the fieldwork methods that you would use to measure the :-

- a) width of the river,
- b) depth in a number of places across the river,
- and
- c) the velocity (speed) of the water in the river in a number of places across the river.

You will be given these measurements and once I have shown you some simple maths, you can use the data and the results to test some of your predictions.

You may have made up a prediction about how the shape of the bedload (stones) in the river changes from site one to site eight.

You will be shown how I measured this during the online lesson.

**How to use the fieldwork data to test your predictions.**

Notes on the maths that you need to use.

Notes on how to draw a cross-section of the river.

**Conclusions and evaluations.**



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**Extension activity studying the bedload data.**