



18 March 2022

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01564 773 348
WWW.ARDEN.SOLIHULL.SCH.UK

Dear Parents/Guardians

Y9 Residential Visit – Castle Howard, North Yorkshire

As you will be aware, the pandemic has prevented us from organising Educational Visits for the last 2 school years. We are, therefore, delighted to be able to offer our Year 9 students an opportunity to attend a residential visit in June 2022. The planned visit is to the Castle Howard area in North Yorkshire with the Bushcraft Company, a leading provider in outdoor education.

There will be 2 visits during week commencing 20 June 2022, one Monday to Wednesday and one Wednesday to Friday. The pupils attending will be grouped by forms. The division of forms between these 2 visits will be based on numbers attending and we will advise which form groups have been allocated to the visits before Easter.

The groups will leave in the morning and travel by coach to North Yorkshire. Once at the venue the pupils will be taken to the Bushcraft camp which is where they will stay for the duration of their visit (2 nights). The pupils will be staying in bell tents in a campsite environment and will be given a full itinerary for their stay, which will include different activities and workshops such as: Trap Making; Camouflage and concealment; Target Sports; Shelter Building; and Fire Workshop and Wilderness Cookery. Please click the link to access the Bushcraft website (<https://thebushcraftcompany.com/locations/castle-howard/>).

The pupils have seen a short video on the location and activities this morning during form and there is an opportunity for you to join a parent webinar on Tuesday 22 March at 6 pm (<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4395184903905648140>). The Bushcraft Company will give you more comprehensive information about the visit and what is involved. You may need to download some additional software for this, but it can be deleted after the talk is completed. We advise that you sign up for the parent talk in advance of the meeting, so you don't need to leave it to the time of the meeting. The meeting will be recorded for those who cannot join and we will email a link of the recording after the meeting.



In order for us to determine interest in this visit, we ask that you complete the Google form (<https://forms.gle/8z47GQzvV3P5npKi6>) to indicate whether your child would be interested in attending, **by 9am on Monday 21 March 2022. This form is only for us to determine whether the trip is viable. Please complete this form even if you do not wish your child to attend.**

We expect the cost of this visit to be around £230 and we will confirm final costs as soon as we are able to.

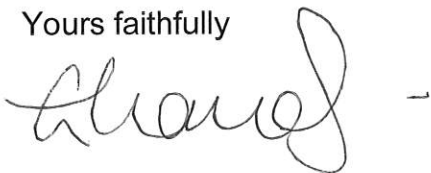
Once we have received responses from the Google form, and if we are able to go ahead, we will require a deposit payment of approximately **£55 per pupil by Friday 1 April 2022.** More information about this and consent forms will be advised in due course.

For your information we expect full payment to have been completed by **Tuesday 3 May 2022.**

Whilst this is not a compulsory visit, we do hope that as many pupils as possible will take part. Pupil Premium Funding is available for this visit for categories A and B – we will email those who are eligible separately and you may contact Mrs Cox (Educational Visits Coordinator) – 01564 732647.

For students that do not attend the residential trip there will be a full week of in-school enrichment activities. We are planning for these activities to include a visiting theatre production, some first aid training, sporting activities and a visit to a theme park. We appreciate the residential trip might not suit every child, so are committed to providing a full and engaging week for those that remain in school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Thomas', followed by a short horizontal line.

Ms G Thomas
Head of Year 9