



27 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 15 October/16 October 2024

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 October 2024, details of which are attached. We have endeavoured to provide a range of activities for all students and have subsidised a number of these activities to try to keep costs to parents/carers as low as possible. These Curriculum Enrichment days offer valuable opportunities for students to experience activities not normally available in the curriculum.

We anticipate all students will take part in all activities.

In order to finance trips, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. The school subsidises some of the costs of the enrichment activities but is finding that costs are rising. If you are able to help in the financial support of this activity, there is an option to pay an additional £5. If we do not receive enough parental donations, the trip will need to be cancelled. As the school receives a grant for students currently receiving free school meals, we do not require a contribution from these students as this can be funded from the grant; however, parental consent is still required through **Scopay**. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for trips can be made using the online Scopay system <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>. If you are unable to pay online you can pay by cash or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone) but you still need to log in to Scopay to give consent and confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements in this letter. If you do not wish your child to participate you will need to log in and give a reason why. We value your feedback and will take this into consideration in our future planning. The deadline for payment/consent is **Friday 4th October**. You can pay in instalments if it's easier to spread the cost over the next month.

Please ensure that we have your up to date emergency contact details and any relevant medical information for your child, as this information is taken from our school database.

School trips are covered by the Trust insurance policy. Please be aware that:

- a) except for visits abroad, insurance arrangements are the same as for students in educational establishments, i.e., that the Trust can only insure against the proven negligence by the Trust and/or its employees; and
- b) the Trust is a member of the RPA (Department for Education risk protection arrangement) which provides personal accident cover (see copy of the policy on the school website for details) but you may consider taking out your own personal accident cover to supplement this if appropriate.

Please would you direct any further enquiries to the named teacher who is organising the activity.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Lamb
Headteacher

Year 10 Students

| Tuesday 15 October | | Wednesday 16 October | |
|--|--|--|--|
| GOM Houses | RBY Houses | GOM Houses | RBY Houses |
| Careers: Apprenticeships & independent training providers Interview Skills & CV Writing Broadway Lodge - Addiction recovery centre. (in-school visit) | Shepton Mallet Prison Trip (Law and sociology) | Shepton Mallet Prison Trip (Law and sociology) | Careers: Apprenticeships & independent training providers Interview Skills & CV Writing PSHE Online exploitation Are you Ready? County Lines |

Shepton Mallet Prison Trip

Organising teacher: Theo Hawkins

Price: £26

Students will be given a fully guided tour of a real 17th century prison and take part in an educational activity. The tours are designed to develop students' understanding of law and sociology as well as their curiosity of the past.

We will leave school by coach from Bridgwater & Taunton College Bus Bay (located outside Bridgwater & Taunton College on the road in to school) at 8.30am. Students need to arrive at school at 8:15am. The journey will be approximately 1 hour 45 minutes each way. We will to school at 3:20pm.

The prison wings and cells are unheated, and the prison will be cold, so we would suggest students bring a warm winter coat.

Students should wear school uniform and are expected to bring the following: -

- A packed lunch and water
- A warm coat
- A backpack for their belongings

Careers:

Organising teacher: Mrs P Hunt

Apprenticeships and independent training providers

There will be an awareness presentation of apprenticeships and pathways into apprenticeships delivered by a representative from SkillUp Somerset on behalf of the ASK programme (Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools and Colleges) and will include a short presentation. Apprenticeships cover all qualification levels from level 2 through to degree and masters.

Interview Skills and CV writing

By the end of the session, students will be able to:

- Understand that interviews help the employer and employee assess their match for one another.
- Identify different types of interview and their purpose.
- Understand the purpose of a CV.

PSHE:

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

Students in RBY will be in tutor groups focusing on the following topics:

Online exploitation.

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Correctly identify different types of cybercrime scams and how you can identify phishing and other scam emails.
- Describe what the different types of scams are and what they look like.
- Explain what techniques are used to hook people in to phishing and other online scams through assessing examples.
- Know how to manage requests for personal information.
- Know how to access support or report concerns online.

Are you Ready?

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To understand what consent is in relation to sex.
- To understand what it means to be ready to have sex.
- To know that everyone is different when it comes to being ready for sex.

County Lines

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Understand the wider ripple effect of drug use and addiction for example: how it can affect families, drugs convictions and future life, criminality, and exploitation.
- To be able to use knowledge from PSHE in order to keep safe in future situations, for example using a dynamic risk assessment if needed.
- How to recognise when others are using manipulation, persuasion, or coercion and how to respond.

PSHE Guest Speakers (GOM only)

Organising teacher: **Mr M Wilkins**

Broadway Lodge - Addiction recovery centre.

Students from GOM will have a visit from the Broadway Lodge centre (as per RBYs session last year)

Broadway Lodge offers residential addiction treatment and recovery places to people from across the UK. The Castle School has worked with the centre for over ten years to bring the reality of addiction and the impact it can have on people's lives to our students. Students have one hour with the lead counsellor from Broadway Lodge as he talks through his work and the work of the centre. The second hour will be spent hearing directly from people suffering from addiction. The third hour allows the students to talk directly with the clients from Broadway Lodge. This is an extremely powerful experience and previous students have said it has significantly changed their thinking around addictive substances and behaviours.

The objectives are:

- Know the effects of addiction on people's physical, mental, emotional and financial health.
- Recognise addiction and understand the impact of this.
- Question the mixed messages about drugs from media, film and culture.
- The unknown consequences and addictiveness of taking drugs.