

17 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 7 Oct/8 Oct 2025

We have now finalised all the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 October 2025, 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.

The overall cost of these trips is £38 per student.

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 prices are rising. If we do not receive enough parental donations, the trips will need to be cancelled.

Payment for trips can be made online using the Arbor system.

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 for all students to confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements outlined in this letter. Consents can be given online via Arbor or by returning the consent slip to the Finance Office/Student Reception.

Parents of students entitled to free school meals can still consent to their child attending the trip via Arbor as there is a non-payment option.

If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

The deadline for consent/payment is **Tuesday 30 September**.

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
The Castle School

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Please return this slip to the Finance Office/Student Reception by Tuesday 30 September if not giving consent through Arbor.

Enrichment Days 7-8 October 2025

I give permission for my son/daughter

Form to attend these Enrichment Days.

Signed (Parent/Carer) Date

Year 7 Students

Tuesday 7 October		Wednesday 8 October	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Chepstow Castle Visit (History)	Weymouth Aquarium Visit (Science)	Weymouth Aquarium Visit (Science)	Cardiff Castle Visit (History)

Weymouth Aquarium Visit

Organising teacher: Miss Crossan and Mrs Woodward

As part of the Year 7 Science curriculum, students will be learning about ecology and the environment, looking at habitats, classification and the adaptations of different species.

The visit to Weymouth Aquarium will enable students to find out about a variety of species from around the world, their adaptations, habitats and the threats facing them. They will be provided with a booklet focusing on these areas to complete during their trip.

Students should wear full school uniform but may wear trainers. All students will need to bring a packed lunch, drink and a pen and pencil.

We will register as normal and will travel to Weymouth by coach. The journey will be approximately 1 hour 45 minutes each way. We will depart from school at 9.15am and to make the most of the day, will return at 5.00pm.

Chepstow/Cardiff Castle History trip

Organising teacher: Mr J Walker and Miss J Norton

As part of the Year 7 History course, we will be studying Medieval society and more specifically, the development of castles and fortifications. This visit will be an excellent opportunity for our students in Year 7 to experience these developments for themselves. Students will go on a tour of the castle, take part in designing strategies for defending and attacking fortifications, and either take part in Medieval workshop or enjoy demonstrations by our Medieval re-enactor, archer and fletcher.

This exciting enrichment visit will help prepare students who later opt for GCSE History for their future GCSE field visit.

Student should wear full school uniform but they will need sensible shoes or trainers to walk around the castle; students need to be prepared for all weathers as the area is very exposed, ie rainproof coat, sun cream, sun hats etc. All students will need to bring a packed lunch, a drink, and a pen and pencil. They will need at least two bottles of water - no food/drink is available to buy.

Chepstow Castle – GOM

Students should arrive at school at the usual time and register as normal. We will return to school at 4:00 approx.

Cardiff Castle – RBY

We will meet at the Bridgwater and Taunton College layby at 7:45am ready to leave by 8.00am and return by the end of the school day, at 4:00pm approx.