



27 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 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 October 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 9 Students

Tuesday 15 October		Wednesday 16 October	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Eden Project Sustainability Trip - Geography	PSHE: Assertiveness Rights & Responsibilities Diversity County Lines Self Defence Session	PSHE: Assertiveness Rights & Responsibilities Diversity County Lines Self Defence Session	Eden Project Sustainability Trip - Geography

Eden Project Sustainability Trip - Geography

Organising teacher: **Ms R Bennett**

Cost: £24.50

We are delighted to be visiting The Eden Project in Cornwall to learn about sustainability and climate change. Students will learn how the natural world sustains us by exploring the Biomes containing the world's largest indoor rainforest, outdoor gardens, contemporary artworks and the Mediterranean Dome.

Students will work in groups and take part in one of two workshops:

Sustainability:

How does Sustainability works in the real world? Students will be introduced to a key sustainability-thinking tool which they'll use to investigate Edens green business credentials, before thinking about the global efforts being made, and their own role in a more sustainable future.

Climate Change:

The choices you make and actions you take make a difference. Using working examples at Eden, students explore how we all, as individuals, can respond positively to the climate emergency.

Students will need to wear school uniform and comfortable walking shoes (or trainers). As the day will involve some periods of working outside (weather permitting) and in the Biomes, students should bring a warm/waterproof coat.

We will leave school by coach from Bridgwater & Taunton College Bus Bay (located outside Bridgwater & Taunton College on the road in to school) at 8.00am. Students need to arrive at school at 7:45am. Students will return to school by 5.00pm approx.

Students will be expected to bring the following:

- A back pack for their belongings
- Packed lunch and a drink
- A coat

Self Defence Session

Organising teacher: **Mr R Jones**

Year 9's will take part in an hour long Self Defence session led by visiting instructor Mr Scott Minnell. Students will need to come to school in PE kits on this day.

PSHE

Organising teacher: **Mr M Wilkins**

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

Assertiveness

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Know the differences between the terms: assertive, passive and aggressive.
- Consider how to respond to different situations that require assertiveness.
- Link assertiveness to challenging harassment and prejudice.

Rights and Responsibilities

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Everyone has the right to refuse.

Understanding the importance of democracy and the UK's political system.

- To know the impact of not having one or more British values.
- To understand the legal system in the UK.

Diversity

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To recognise the lasting effect prejudice has on individuals and society.
- To appreciate and celebrate the range of national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom.
- To know what unacceptable prejudice-based language and behaviour is, offline and online, including sexism, homophobia, racism, ableism and faith-based prejudice
- To know the laws around protected characteristics eg employment

County Lines

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To know details about different types of drugs and their effects on people's physical, mental, emotional, and financial health.
- To understand county lines.
- To understand the laws surrounding drugs.
- To know the specific services that people can go to for help eg Frank
- The unknown consequences and addictedness of vaping, what is in the vapes. Not all are certified and contain unknown chemicals.