

16 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 7 October/8 October 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 the trip is £25 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

✂

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 9 Students

Tuesday 7 October		Wednesday 8 October	
GOM Houses	RBH Houses	GOM Houses	RBH Houses
Eden Project - Geography Sustainability Trip	LaunchPad - Young Enterprise	LaunchPad - Young Enterprise	Eden Project - Geography Sustainability Trip

Eden Project Sustainability Trip - Geography

Organising teacher: Ms R Bennett

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.

As well as exploring the Biomes, students will work in groups and take part in the following workshop:

Sustainability:

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

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

LaunchPad - Young Enterprise – In school

Organising teacher: Mr Simpson

The day will be led by the Young Enterprise Team and by visitors from industry, and supported by form tutors. Students will work in tutor groups on a day-long team exercise designed to encourage young people to start thinking about their future.

Students will develop key skills valued by employers in this programme which not only targets their entrepreneurial, DT and problem-solving skills, but it also helps them work on soft skills such as communication, organisation, teamwork & presentation skills. Students will gain exposure to finance and budget planning and get a taste of what the real world of work might look like.