

14 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 26 June/27 June 2025**

We have now finalised all the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Thursday 26 and Friday 27 June 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 £27 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. 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. 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 MCAS system

<https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>. 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 give consent** to confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements outlined in this letter.

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

If you are making an online payment, please use the MCAS system to give your consent. If you are paying by cash/card or receive free school meals, please use the slip at the foot of this letter to give your consent and return the slip to the Finance Office/Student Reception.

The deadline for consent/payment is **Friday 6 June**.

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 Wordsworth  
**Head of School**  
**The Castle School**

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Please return this slip to the Finance Office/Student Reception by Friday 6 June if not giving consent through MCAS.

**Enrichment Days 26-27 June 2025**

I give permission for my son/daughter .....

Form ..... to attend these Enrichment Days.

Signed (Parent/Carer) ..... Date .....

### **Year 7 Students**

Thursday 26 June		Friday 27 June	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Bristol Places of Worship Trip (RE)	Chepstow Castle Trip (History)	Chepstow Castle Trip (History)	Bristol Places of Worship Trip (RE)

#### **Bristol Places of Worship Trip (RE)**

Organising teacher: Mrs M Norris

As part of our as part of our Religion and world views enrichment offer which looks at how scriptures are used, how communities worship together and how religions follow spiritual guidance, we are visiting places of worship in Bristol.

We are visiting a Sikh Temple on both dates, either a Hindu Temple or Mosque. Students will have a tour of the buildings and the worship space and complete an education booklet which will assist them in their learning of the topic. They will also have the chance to ask questions and talk to different representatives of the religions.

We will leave school by coach from Bridgwater & Taunton College Bus Bay (located outside Bridgwater & Taunton College on the road in to school) at 8.15am. Students need to arrive at school at 8:00am. We will return by 3:20pm.

Students should wear school uniform and **bring some form of head covering (scarf or hat)**, as well as a warm/waterproof coat suitable for walking outdoors. Students will be asked to remove their shoes, so socks should be worn. Students will need to bring a packed lunch and a drink.

#### **Chepstow Castle Trip (History)**

Organising teacher: Mr M Lowe 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 be enthralled 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.

We advise all students to wear home clothes and sensible shoes or trainers or they will not be allowed to walk around the castle; students need to be prepared for all weathers as the area is very exposed, ie rainproof clothing, 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.

We will travel to Chepstow by coach. The journey should be relatively short, lasting approximately 1 hour 15 minutes each way. We will meet at the Bridgwater and Taunton College layby at 8.15am ready to leave by 8.30am and return by the end of the school day, at 3:10 approx.