

January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 22/23/24 March 2022

The details of the three Curriculum Enrichment days on Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 March 22 are attached (please see over). These 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 these activities, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. We very much hope you are able to contribute; if we do not get enough contributions we will have to cancel the activities. 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 the online Scopay system. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for this trip can be made using the online Scopay system <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>. Please note, you will need to tick the consent box before you can pay. If you are unable to pay online you can pay by cash/cheque (made payable to The Castle School) or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone) but you still need to login to Scopay to give consent and confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements outlined in this letter. If you do not wish your child to participate you will need to login 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 **Monday 7 March 2022.**

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 Thomson
Deputy Headteacher

Year 8 Students

Tuesday 22 March		Wednesday 23 March		Thursday 24 March	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Visit to Bletchley Park	Careers PSHE (In-school)	First Aid (In-school)	Visit to Bletchley Park	Careers PSHE (In-school)	First Aid (In-school)

Visit to Bletchley Park

Organising teacher: Mr M Pitts

Cost: 33.50

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) have a profound impact on our everyday lives and play an important role in UK industry, which is currently experiencing a shortage of skills in these areas. In order to engage students in STEM subjects, The Castle School will be following a STEM enrichment plan involving activities in and out of school.

As part of this, Year 8 will be visiting Bletchley Park Museum. During their visit they will take part in the following activities:

- An interactive workshop session 'Interception to Intelligence: D-Day', in which students will use practical problem solving and team working skills as they begin to understand the scale of the task faced by Bletchley Park's codebreakers during World War Two.
- A guided tour around the outside of the buildings, providing opportunity for students to delve deeper into the story of Bletchley Park and the process of sending, intercepting and decrypting coded messages.
- Self-guided time which allows groups to explore the mansion, museums, huts (and of course the shop) at their own pace.
- A 30-minute slot in a lunch room.

On return to school, all students will be expected to complete a piece of homework detailing something new that they have discovered during their visit to the Bletchley Park Museum.

Essential Information

Bletchley Park Museum is located in Milton Keynes. We will be travelling by coach.

Students will meet at and return to the Bridgwater & Taunton College bus bay (located outside Bridgwater & Taunton College on the road in to school).

Departure time 6.30am, return to school 5.30pm.

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

- a packed lunch
- a bottle of water
- a pen

A mobile phone is also advised so we can collect contact numbers for the day.

Students may also want to bring a camera and a small amount of money to spend in the museum shop.

Careers

Introduction to Careerpilot website

Organising teacher: Mrs J Corbett

Students are introduced to the Careerpilot website and how it can be used to find out information about careers, courses and options at 14, 16 and 18.

By the end of the lesson, students should:

- Be able to register/sign in to access the Careerpilot website
- Know where to find out more about their own skills and the skills that are required for different jobs.

Recognising and building personal skills

Organising Teacher: Mrs J Corbett

By the end of the activity students will be able to:

- Identify a number of key personal skills
- Explain how they already demonstrate these skills in their everyday lives
- Evaluate how they can build on these skills and adapt them to a workplace setting

First Aid

Lead teacher: Mr R Jones

Students will be in their tutor groups, and will gain a basic understanding and confidence in how to deal with the following incidents:

- CPR
- Primary survey & recovery position
- Choking
- Defib training, Epi Pens
- Calling 999

The activity will take place in school and students should bring PE kit.

PSHE

Organising teacher: **Mr M Wilkins**

Year 8 will be having three hours of PSHE during the March enrichment days. The three lessons are on self-esteem, Changing bodies and finance.

The learning objectives are as follows:

Self-esteem

Correctly identify the ways people contrive online personas and the effects this can have on both our self-esteem and that of others.

Explain why people create online personas, the meaning of imposter syndrome and how people can get addicted to social media.

Explain why people feel the need to create online 'brands' of themselves as well as the risks addiction to social media poses to our mental health.

Changing bodies

- The role of a balanced diet – impacts of an unhealthy diet. Strategies to manage healthy eating.
- Know the different body types
- Explore societies preferences for certain body types
- Understand how puberty affects people differently
- To promote positive self-body image
- Understand that social media promotes unrealistic body types

Financial awareness

- how to effectively budget, including the benefits of saving
- how to effectively make financial decisions, including recognising the opportunities and challenges involved in taking financial risks
- to evaluate social and moral dilemmas about the use of money, including the influence of advertising and peers on financial decisions