

January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 22/23/24 March 2022

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the three Curriculum Enrichment days on Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 2022, 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 these trips, 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 trip. 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 9 Students

Tuesday 22 March		Wednesday 23 March		Thursday 24 March	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Paul Hannaford	Paul Hannaford	Blackrock Outdoor Education	South West Army Engagement Team– Leadership and Teamwork	South West Army Engagement Team– Leadership and Teamwork	Blackrock Outdoor Education
PSHE	PSHE				
Careers (in school)	Careers (in school)				
Food FGCSE*	Food FGCSE*				

*Students participating will be contacted by their teacher directly with further information.

Blackrock Outdoor Education

Organising teacher: Mr D Beer

Cost: £38.20

We are very excited to offer all Year 9s the opportunity to take part in a full day of outdoor activities at Blackrock Outdoor Education. A day of outdoor muddy fun which helps teach problem solving, helps develop independence, test physical limits and assess risk.

Students will need to register in their form room and then meet on the tennis courts at 8.50am ready to depart at 9.00am. Students will travel by coach and will return by 5.00pm.

Students will not be expected to wear school uniform but will need to wear appropriate warm clothing for the activities and comfortable shoes/trainers. Please note that students will get very muddy so be sure to wear old clothing/footwear!

Students will be expected to bring the following:

- A back pack for their belongings
- A change of clothes/shoes
- Towel
- Black bag for dirty clothes
- Packed Lunch
- A coat

Careers

Organising Teacher: Mrs J Corbett

Using Careerpilot website to research different jobs and job sectors delivered by Next Steps South West – Tuesday 22 March

Students will use Careerpilot to find out more about different jobs and job sectors.

By the end of the lesson, students should:

- Know how to use Careerpilot to find out information on jobs and the different pathways
- Understand the different skills required and consider their own individual skills

Introduction to Higher Education delivered by Next Steps South West – Tuesday 22 March

Next Steps South West will lead a session introducing students to Higher Education and includes a visit to University Centre of Somerset.

South West Army Engagement Team– Leadership and Teamwork (RBY Wednesday 23 and GOM Thursday 24 March)

Organising teacher: Mrs Corbett

The South West Army Engagement team will deliver leadership, command and teamwork sessions in school. Students will need to wear PE kit (a coat or blazer can be worn if cold). Sessions will be held in classrooms and on the sports field.

PSHE

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

Year 9 will have three hours of PSHE during the March enrichment days. The three lessons are rights & responsibilities, risk, assertiveness.

The learning objectives of these lessons are:

Right & responsibilities

- A basic understanding of the different rights and freedoms of British citizens
- An understanding of the basic, political, legal and human rights held by British citizens. A clear understanding of the link between rights and responsibilities
- A developed understanding of rights and responsibilities, including who they apply to, where they come from and the principles behind them.

Risk

- Why people in authority's instructions should be complied with
- What is meant by personal information and what should be kept private; the importance of telling a trusted adult if they come across something that scares them
- Reasons for following and complying with regulations and restrictions (including age restrictions); how they promote personal safety
- How to predict, assess and manage risk in different situations

Assertiveness

- The importance of being assertive
- The need for negotiation in certain situations
- How being assertive means you are not taken for granted and your views are considered.

Paul Hannaford – Guest Speaker

Year 9 will also have a talk by an outside speaker, Paul Hannaford. Paul Hannaford has won multiple awards for his workshops and talks about the dangers of addiction, drugs and alcohol as well as involvement in gangs, knife crime and county lines. Through his own experiences as a former addict of over 20 years, he conveys an incredibly powerful and hard-hitting message. Paul has visited The Castle School before and we look forward to welcoming him back.

Food FGCSE

Organising teacher: Mrs S Bowdler

Students will be contacted by their teacher if they are taking part in this activity.