

May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

**Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 30 June/01 July 2022**

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Thursday 30 June, and Friday 01 July 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 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 trips 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 **Friday 27 May**. 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 Thomson  
**Deputy Headteacher**

## Year 7 Students

Thursday 30 June		Friday 01 July	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Mamma Mia Musical Trip- Bristol (Drama and Music)		Careers - Achieve your Ambition launch	
		PSHE Lessons Topics: #Notatourschool – the art of debating Prevent & extremism	

### **Mamma Mia Musical Trip - Bristol**

Organising teacher: Mrs A Step

**Cost: £31.50**

We are delighted to be taking the whole of Year 7 to the theatre during the summer enrichment days. We have booked tickets to see the matinee performance of Mamma Mia at The Bristol Hippodrome on Thursday 30 June. The cost of the trip will be £31.50.

Students must arrive at school in uniform and register as usual at the normal time. Before we leave, students will take part in a carousel of workshops that will focus on the musical with their Arts' faculty teachers. Students will take part in at least two of the following workshops; Designing Costumes for the West End, Learning Choreography, Singing and Set Design.

We will leave school at approximately 12:30pm and travel to Bristol by coach. Students must bring a packed lunch with them and this could be eaten either at school before we leave, at break time, or once we have arrived in Bristol. The matinee performance begins at 2:30pm and lasts 2 hours 35 minutes inclusive of the interval. We anticipate returning to Taunton by 6:30 – 7:00pm – traffic dependent. The coach will drop students at the bus stop at the front of Bridgwater and Taunton College.

We advise that students bring plenty of snacks and water to last until they get home. Students will be asked not to eat during the performance and respect theatre etiquette throughout.

Key information:

- Come to school at the usual time in uniform
- Theatre workshops with your teachers in the morning
- Departing Castle at 12:30pm
- Returning to Castle at approx. 6:30pm
- Bring a packed lunch, snacks and water

If you have any questions about the payment for the trip please contact student finance. For general questions about the day please do not hesitate to contact us.

### **Careers – Achieving Your Ambition**

Organising teacher: Mrs J Corbett

Year 7 will be taking part in an 'Achieve Your Ambition' day in half year groups for periods 1 – 3.

Achieve Your Ambition aims to support the learning of students, helping them to unlock their potential and gain confidence. It is a framework that will be used during their time at The Castle School, supported by their tutors. Achieve Your Ambition starts with the idea of what success is. Students will discuss and explore what happiness and fulfilment mean to them. They will also look at how they can be successful at school, in work, with family and friends etc. and will start to develop their own moral compass to guide them through life.

Achieve Your Ambition contributes to high expectation and a culture of success through its child centered approach and by creating a unique environment within the classroom. At its heart is a desire to encourage ambition, confidence and thirst for life-long learning within students. It enables the children to create a direct link between what they want to achieve and what the school wants to teach them. Students will come back to the programme throughout Years 7 - 9.

## **PSHE**

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

The students will be in groups focusing on the following topics:

### **#Notatourschool – the art of debating**

- Know the characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including trust, privacy, consent and the management of conflict and reconciliation in family relationships.
- How to plan a balance between school, work, leisure, exercise and online activity.
- the characteristics of mental and emotional health; to develop empathy and understanding about how daily actions can affect people's mental health.
- To start to understand how to challenge discrimination #notatourschool.

### **Prevent & extremism**

- Know that some types of behavior within relationships are criminal, including violent behavior and coercive control.
- To understand that we live in a society that celebrates diversity and difference.
- To be able to articulate what diversity is.
- To know to challenge anyone that has views which are anti-diverse.