



ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

AN ACADEMY TRUST

Dear Parent/Carer,

Extra-curricular opportunities and enrichment visits are an important and memorable part of education. They enhance learning, enable students to grow in self-confidence and independence and allow them the chance to show leadership and team work skills. At Ilkley Grammar School we aim to provide our students with a variety of experiences throughout their time with us.

In light of this, the school's fourth **Challenge and Celebration Week** will take place between **Monday July 17th and Friday July 21st 2017**. All students will be off timetable during this week following a programme of either school based, off site or residential activities bespoke to their year group. Activities build on each other from year to year, allowing students to experience a range of opportunities throughout their school life.

- Year 7 - Option 1 - The Big Mix (Local day trips)
- Year 8 - Option 1 - The Big Trip (London)
- Year 9 - Option 1 - The Big Outdoors (Lake District)
- KS3 - Option 2 – The Big Local Experience (Wharfe & Aire Valley)
- Year 10 – Work Experience

It is hoped that tutors will accompany their forms as much as possible throughout this time, enabling them to further deepen the bond they have with their tutees. Student leadership opportunities are embedded within the programme. The role of older students in supporting the successful running of the week is crucial and Year 12 students are very much expected to be fully involved in the week in a number of ways of their choosing.

Today your son/daughter attended a launch assembly outlining the character of the programme.

For Year 7:

Option 1: The Big Mix

Students will participate in a carousel of 4 day-based activities.

Day 1: Aerial Xtreme, Bedale - meet the challenge of the tree-top course and enjoy riding the Segway and quadbikes.

Day 2: The Big Top - fine tune your trapeze, unicycling and diablo skills with the Foolhardy Circus at the school field.

Day 3: A visit to a mosque in Bradford followed by a chance to improve your ten pin bowling skills at the Bradford Leisure Exchange

Day 4: A visit to Lightwater Valley to experience the fun and thrills of the rides.

Option 2: The Big Local Experience

Students will participate in a carousel of 4 day-based activities.

Day 1: The Craven Challenge – get hands on with practical tasks hosted by Craven College, Skipton

Day 2: Be creative in the project-day run by the Art Department

Day 3: Walk the Wharfe – enjoy some of the finest scenery in the country walking the Dales Way footpath.

Day 4: A day of activities based in the Wharfe Valley

The total cost of Option 1 is £100; this is inclusive of all transport, activities and insurance. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium are eligible for a 50% discount. The total cost of Option 2 is £25 and free for those students in receipt of Pupil Premium. It is with regret that this letter requesting a deposit should come so



Headteacher Helen Williams

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close to a similar request for the Nell Bank visit. Please note however that there are no other planned visits for Year 7 this year and that the school has attempted to spread the cost of Challenge & Celebration week over a period of time.

Payment details

As a school we are very aware of the additional cost of school trips. As a result we have devised a payment system that we hope will spread the cost over a period of time in line with the payment deadlines the school itself has to meet with the organisations and companies that will be involved in the week. It is vital that parents do meet the payment deadlines outlined below as failure to do so may well result in both the loss of non-refundable deposits and the place a student may have on a trip. Having said this, if you do have any issues with the payment dates please speak to Mrs Joy Heyworth in the Finance Department.

In addition to the use of Pupil Premium to subsidise the cost of these opportunities for some, the school is delighted to announce that the Ilkley Grammar School PTA is kindly continuing the school travel bursary to further widen student participation and access. **Please log onto the school website should you wish to find out more about this form of financial support.**

http://www.ilkleygrammarschool.com/parents/pta_enrichment_bursary/

Finally, it needs to be reiterated that Challenge and Celebration Week is very much linked to the school's Personal Best rewards and sanctions policy. Students who have been in isolation three or more days over the academic year, or who have been excluded, may not be eligible to participate in the week and will need to attend an alternative programme of activities during this time. Please note that, with regret, the school also may not be able to fully refund all payments made for students that have been barred from C&C week or have withdrawn from activities for reasons other than those supported by a doctor's note.

	Deposit 1 28/10/2016	Final payment 28/02/2017	Total Cost
Year 7 Option 1: The Big Mix	£50 (PPI £25)	£50 (PPI £25)	£100 (PPI £50)
Year 7 Option 2: The Big Local Experience	£25 (PPI free)		£25 (PPI free)

Please note the cost of the trip at this time is an approximate figure and may vary, if this is the case we will notify you as soon as possible.

Next steps:

I would be most grateful if parents of students could complete the reply form handed out in assembly this morning or found at the end of this letter and get your son/daughter to return it to their form tutor **no later than Monday 10th October**. In addition to this, it is also vital that a non-refundable deposit is uploaded to ParentPay no later than **Friday 28th October if you wish to participate in any of the Option 1 activities**. It is with regret that failure to do this will result in your son/daughter not being able to gain a place on an Option 1 activity and being placed on Option 2.

If you have any other questions about the week please phone or e mail Naomi Addy (Head of Year 7) or contact Assistant Headteacher, Mr Mark Rignall for general questions about the whole programme.

I hope your son/daughter will look forward to participating in these exciting opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Williams, Headteacher

Please return this reply slip to your form tutor by Monday 10th October

Student: **Form:**

*Please tick **ONE** of the following option boxes below.*

Year 7

I would like my son/daughter to participate in the Year 7 Big Mix (Option 1) and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£50** to Parent Pay by **Friday 28th October and pay the balance by 28th February 2017.**

I would like my son/daughter to participate in the KS3 Big Local Experience (Option 2) and agree to upload **£25** to Parent Pay by **Friday 28th October (PPI no payment required)**

Parent/Carer Signature: **Date:**