



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 different year groups. Activities build on each other from year to year, allowing students to experience a range of opportunities throughout their school life. 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.

Your son/daughter has attended a launch assembly outlining the character of the programme.

For Year 12: The Big Choice

Students are able to choose from one of the three strands outlined below.

Subject enrichment: This is a chance for students to immerse themselves in a subject they really love.

- **Shakespeare Experience** –this is a fantastic chance to visit both Stratford and London and see three different plays at three different theatres! We go to Stratford-upon-Avon, the home of the Royal Shakespeare Company, to see two plays as well as have time to explore the town and perhaps have a theatre tour. We then go to London and visit the Globe theatre and also have a workshop and see another play! We go to fun workshops to find out about the plays so you always know what's going on. They are fun for both actors and non-actors! Honest! We also have time to do some sight-seeing in Stratford. On our way back from London we have a visit to the Harry Potter studios for some different cultural fun! The cost of this option will be approximately £280.

Please note that this trip is available to all students and not just those that study English and Drama.

- **Science in Switzerland** – a chance to visit the world famous Hadron Collider in Cern, the Geneva Science Museum, the headquarters of the United Nations and Red Cross and experience a factory tour and boat trip on Lake Geneva. The cost of this option will be approximately £400. *Please note that this trip is available to all students and not just those that study Science.*
- **Humanities in Krakow** (4 days, 3 nights) Students will tour this of this incredible medieval city taking in its historical houses, palaces and churches with their magnificent interiors. One day will be spent visiting the Auschwitz concentration camp. Other options over the next few days will be to take in things like Schindler's factory, the Jewish Quarter, the Galicia museum and the Salt Mine in Wieliczka. Half board. Places will be limited to 40 students. Price £550 approx. *Please note that this trip is available to all students and not just those that study Humanities subjects.*

iLeadership: Students are able to choose to assist the smooth running of all of the KS3 activities (Y7 iLeader – The Big Mix, Y8 iLeader – The Big Trip, Year 9 iLeader – The Big Outdoors). The cost of each activity is the same as it is for students in KS3, but post 16 students will gain an invaluable experience in leadership, potentially even a Level 2 qualification with the Big Outdoors residential, and something really to write about in their UCAS personal statements. There is also a chance to be an iLeader for Option 2: The Big Local Experience; this has no cost associated with it.

Headteacher Helen Williams

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Personalisation: This is a chance for students to ring fence some quality time to complete a week of self-organised work experience. *Please note that although staff may initially assist you with finding a placement the onus is on you to do this before Christmas.*

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, please speak to Mrs Joy Heyworth in the Finance Department.

	Deposit 1 28/10/2016	Final payment 28/02/2017	Total Cost
Year 7 Option 1: The Big Mix	£50	£50	£100 approx
Year 8 Option 1: The Big Trip	£125	£ 200	£325 approx
Year 9 Option 1: The Big Outdoors	£100	£175	£275 approx
KS3 Option 2: The Big Local Experience	£0	£0	£0
Post 16: Shakespeare Experience	£100	£180	£280 approx (no PPI reduction)
Post 16: Science in Switzerland	£100	£300	£400 approx (no PPI reduction)
Post 16: Humanities in Krakow	£150	£400	£550 approx (no PPI reduction)
Post 16: Work Experience	£0	£0	£0

This year, in addition to the use of Pupil Premium to subsidise the cost of these opportunities for some, the school is delighted 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. 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.

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 form given out in form time or found at the bottom 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 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 activity and will therefore participate in work experience.

If you have any other questions about the week please phone or e mail the appropriate head of year 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 12

Subject enrichment strand:

- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **Shakespeare Experience** and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£100** to Parent Pay by **Friday October 28th 2016** and pay the balance by **28th February 2017**.
- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **Science in Switzerland** trip and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£100** to Parent Pay by **Friday October 28th 2016** and pay the balance by **28th February 2017**.
- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **Humanities in Krakow** and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£150** to Parent Pay by **Friday October 28th 2016** and pay the balance by **28th February 2017**.

iLeadership strand:

- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **Year 7 Option 1: The Big Mix** carousel as an iLeader and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£50** to Parent Pay by **Friday 28th October 2016** and pay the balance by **28th February 2017**.
- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **Year 8 Option 1: The Big Trip** to London as an iLeader and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£125** to Parent Pay by **Friday 28th October 2016** and pay the balance by **28th February 2017**.
- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **Year 9 Option 1: The Big Outdoors** in the Lake District as an iLeader and agree to upload a non-refundable deposit of **£100** to Parent Pay by **Friday October 28th 2016** and pay the balance by **28th February 2017**.
- I would like my son/daughter to participate in the **KS3 Option 2: The Big Local Experience**.

Personalisation strand:

- I would like my son/daughter to participate in self-organised work experience during Challenge and Celebration Week

Parent/Carer Signature: **Date:**