



ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

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 eighth **Challenge and Celebration Week** will take place between **Monday July 18th and Friday July 22nd 2022**. 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.

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.

Next week your son/daughter will attend a launch assembly outlining the character of the programme. Students in Year 9 will have a choice of one of three options.

Option 1: The Big Outdoors

Students will participate in a 4 day 'activities residential' in the Lake District. They will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of individual and team based challenges on both land and water. All activities will be led by the staff of Brathay Hall, a nationally renowned centre for the training of young people in outdoor education. While some activities will take place in the forested grounds of the centre, others will be on the surrounding higher terrain or Lake Windermere, on the shores of which Brathay Hall is located. Activities include canoeing, rowing, high-wire ropes, raft building, orienteering, mountain walking, gorge scrambling, high and low level forest challenges and team problem-solving. A range of other less strenuous and more sociable activities is also planned for some evenings. Students will be accommodated at either Brathay Hall or the nearby Ambleside Youth Hostel. Provisionally departs 9:00am on the Monday and returns around 3:30-4pm on the Thursday.

Option 2: Yr 8 & 9 Carousel

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

Day 1: Allerthorpe – A Team Building day of Water based activities

Day 2: Lazer Tag & Bowling

Day 3: A visit to Blackpool Pleasure Beach to experience the fun and thrills of the rides

Day 4: Tree Tops – A day at 'Go Ape' Temple Newsham

Option 3

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

Day 1: A day of activity based challenges at Nell Bank in the Wharfe Valley

Day 2: The Practical Challenge – get hands on with practical tasks in the DT Food and Art classrooms at IGS

Day 3: Be creative in the project-day run by the Photography Department

Day 4: Walk the Wharfe – enjoy some of the finest scenery in the country walking the Dales Way footpath.

All days depart and return within the normal school hours each day.

The total cost which is inclusive of all transport, activities and insurance for Option 1 is £340, Option 2 is £140. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium are eligible for a 50% discount on Option 1 & 2. The total cost of Option 3 is £35 and free for those students in receipt of Pupil Premium.



Headteacher: Mrs Carly Purnell – Ilkley Grammar School

Executive Headteacher and CEO: Ms Helen Williams – Moorlands Learning Trust

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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 Clare Robun (Head of Year 9) who will pass the issue to the Finance Department as appropriate.**

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. Please note the closing date for the first round of applications is 5th November 2021.**

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 29/10/2021 | Second Payment 28/01/2022 | Final Payment 29/03/22 |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Year 9 Option 1: The Big Outdoors | £120 (PPI £60) | £110 (PPI £55) | £110 (PPI £55) |
| Year 9 Option 2: Yr 8 & 9 Carousel | £40 (PPI £20) | £50 (PPI £25) | £50 (PPI £25) |
| Year 9 Option 3: Day Carousel | £35 (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.

We appreciate that some families are waiting for insurance payments to be processed from last year's Challenge and Celebration week. These are still being assessed by the insurance company and we have no further update at present. Once the claim has been successfully processed, we will inform you and there will be the option to be reimbursed directly or to transfer the money to this year's trips. However, in the meantime we would ask that you do pay the deposit so that we can secure this year's events and we will be in touch with a further update as soon as we receive one from the insurance company.

Trips and visits are fully covered by our school insurance which covers losses due to accident, illness or Covid-19 related issues provided any claim is supported by the appropriate paperwork. If a claim is to be successful you would be required to provide a doctor's note, and in the case of Covid-19 related claims, NHS or Track & Trace notifications. If local or national restrictions prevent a trip going ahead all monies will be refunded. Please be advised it can take a number of months before any claim can be settled and a refund issued; we ask you for your patience in this matter.

Important Next Steps:

I would be most grateful if parents of students could complete the Microsoft Form (**Year 9 C&C Choices Form**) no later than **Friday 22nd October**. In addition to this, it is also vital that a non-refundable deposit is uploaded to ParentPay no later than **Friday 29th October 2021 if you wish to participate in either Option 1, 2 or 3**. It is with regret that failure to do this may result in your son/daughter not being able to gain a place on their preferred option. If you have any other questions about the week, please phone or email Clare Robun or contact myself for general questions about the whole programme.

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

Yours sincerely,
Mr A Calvert
Assistant Headteacher
Transition and KS3; Designated Safeguarding Lead