



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 teamwork 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 annual **Challenge and Celebration Week** will take place between **Monday 15th and Friday 19th July 2023**. 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.

Your child has attended an assembly outlining the character of the programme. Students in Post-16 have a wide range of opportunities.

For Year 12: The Big Choice

Students are able to choose from one of the options outlined below:

Option 1: Subject and cultural enrichment: This is a chance for students to explore subject enrichment in an international setting.

- **Science in Switzerland** (4 days & 3 nights, half board) - 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 £750.
- **Humanities in Krakow** (5 days & 4 nights, Mon - Fri, half board) – Students will tour 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.) The cost of this option will be approximately £895.
- **Culture in Berlin** (3 nights & 4 days, half board) Students will explore the City of Berlin and visit Sachsenhausen, Olympic Stadium, Wansee, Alexanderplatz, Bradenburg Gate, Berlin TV Tower, 1hr River Spree, Berlin War Memorial and the DDR museum. The cost of this option will be approximately £770.
- **Culture in Rome** (3 nights & 4 days, half board)- Students will explore the Italian capital and visit Roman Forum, Palatine Hill and the Colosseum amongst other excursions. The cost of this option will be approximately £815.
- **Culture in Belfast** (3 nights & 4 days, half board) – Students will travel by coach and explore Belfast and visit the Giant's Causeway, Carrick-A-Rede Rope Bridge, Glenarriff Park, Portstewart Strand & Whiterocks Beach. The cost of this option will be approximately £540
- **Leadership: Yr8 in London** (3 nights & 4 days, full board) – Students will travel by coach and explore our capital city, taking in some of the cities most famous landmarks, Olympic Park, the Tate Modern, the London Eye, the Tower of London, the Globe Theatre, London Zoo, experience a river boat cruise along the Thames and in the evening will have the opportunity to attend a major West End Theatre production and go ten-pin bowling. The cost of this option will be £485
- **Leadership: Yr7 Carousel** (4 days) – Students will participate in a carousel of 4 day based activities. Leeds Sailing, Flamingo Land, Walk the Wharfe and Forbidden Corner. The cost of this option will be £135



Headteacher: Mrs Carly Purnell – Ilkley Grammar School

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

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Option 2

Work Experience: This is a chance for students to ring fence some valuable time to complete a week of **work experience** organised with the support of school; this should be linked to future pathways. Please note that although staff will assist students with finding a placement and will be required to formally sign it off, the onus is on the students to put this in place before **30th October 2023** and return all necessary paperwork.

Art Project: As part of this option, students will design and make the props for 2025 school production. There will be a trip to a local theatre, including tour of backstage and chance to discuss with professionals how props, costumes and stage set is created and sourced in the industry (subject to availability).

In School: an in-school programme which could include one or more of: Next Steps research / academic catch-up / academic enrichment (e.g. MOOC) / volunteering / in-school WEx.

Please note that all students not selecting an option above will follow the in-school programme.

Payment details:

As a school we are very aware of the additional cost of school trips and particularly in the current climate. The cost of the trips detailed above are slightly higher than last year however we still believe they offer great value and experience to the students. The flights have not been released for Rome, Krakow and Geneva and the tour operator has included a small contingency in the event the prices are higher than anticipated. It is hoped that this not needed and therefore can be reflected in the final instalment being lower.

We have devised a payment system that we hope will spread the cost over a period 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/carers 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 do not hesitate to phone or email Mrs Joy Heyworth in the school Finance Department to arrange a personal payment plan.

	Non Refundable Deposit 20/10/23	2nd Instalment 30/11/23	3rd Instalment 26/01/24	4th Instalment 29/02/24	Final Instalment 29/03/24	Full Cost
Post 16 Science in Switzerland	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150	£750*
Post 16 Humanities in Krakow	£150	£200	£185	£185	£175	£895*
Cultural trip to Berlin	£150	£160	£150	£160	£150	£770*
Cultural trip to Rome	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150	£815*
Cultural trip to Belfast	£150	£110	£100	£100	£100	£660*
Leadership: Yr8 London	£150	£100	£80	£80	£75	£485
Leadership: Yr7 Carousel	£50	£25	£20	£20	£20	£135

*Approximate price- based on minimum numbers being met. All excursions are subject to availability.

The school is delighted to announce that the Ilkley Grammar School PTA is kindly continuing to offer the PTA 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.

<https://www.ilkleygrammarschool.com/parents/pta-enrichment-bursary/>

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 *Reflection*, or who have been excluded, may not be eligible to participate in the week. 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.

Coronavirus Travel Restrictions and Insurance

For overseas travel there are still some entry and local restrictions in place that have to be followed (see <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice> for up-to-date guidance). In addition to those country specific requirements the UK guidance may require a NHS Covid Pass for Overseas Travel to show fully vaccinated status. Our travel insurance and/or travel companies' specific 'covid promise' will allow for claims to be made if restrictions and guidance are subsequently put in place preventing or hindering travel on the date of departure and a full refund would be received. If restrictions and/or vaccination guidance however allowed travel, then the 'covid promise' element would be invalid and normal travel insurance would be in place e.g. for health related, covid positive or non-covid reasons preventing travel and a claim for a full refund could be made.

Please note - if the relevant travel guidance requires 16-17 year olds to be fully vaccinated (as defined at the time of departure) as an entry requirement or local restriction for the destination, a refund would not be provided if it is a personal choice not to be fully vaccinated.

Please be aware that signing up to an overseas trip comes with a financial risk if you are not willing to be classed as fully vaccinated at least 14 days before the departure date as no refund can be issued in this respect.

Next steps:

Please complete [this form](#) by 12 noon on **Monday 2nd October** to indicate a preference for the activities on offer. Any decisions for oversubscribed trips (names out of hat/waiting lists) will be made by **Friday 6th October** and the ParentPay services for the deposits will then be made live. The deadline for all deposits on P16 trips is **Friday 20th October**. It is with regret that failure to do this will result in your child not being able to gain a place on their chosen option.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Carr.

I hope your child will look forward to participating in these exciting opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Carr

Associate Assistant Headteacher: Community, Enrichment & Transition

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Please Note

Current Coronavirus Travel Restrictions (as of 22/09/23)

There are no current Coronavirus restrictions to enter the trip destinations listed above. For further guidance please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/coronavirus>

If there are any changes in entry requirements that require evidence of a negative PCR test the PCR test would need to be funded at your own cost.

Passport validity

To travel to an EU country, you must follow the [Schengen area passport requirements](#).

Your passport must be:

- Issued less than 10 years before the date you enter the country (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

You must check your passport meets these requirements before you travel. If your passport was issued before 1 October 2018, extra months may have been added to its expiry date.

Insurance

The trip is fully covered by the school travel insurance policy and any claims would need to be supported by medical evidence. Any claim may be subject to an excess.

By completing the online survey for your child to be considered for the trips you agree to the following:

- I give consent for my child to participate in Challenge and Celebration Week 2024
- I understand that if there are any significant behaviour concerns, participation will be dependent on an ongoing assessment of risk. Parents/carers and students will be kept aware at each stage, and during the trip, if the school has any concerns in this regard. While every effort will be made to minimise any financial implications, parents/carers and students should be aware that it is the safety risk assessment that will dictate decision-making and that, with regret, the school may not be able to fully refund any/all payments made for students that have been barred or have withdrawn from activities for reasons other than those supported by a doctor's note.
- I understand I am making a **commitment** to the trip and that if successful I will follow the payment schedule as listed, with the deposit being non-refundable and other payments refundable if covered by the trip's travel insurance.

Liability for Trip Costs on Booking:

An initial, non-refundable, deposit is required for the trip and the remaining balance is to be paid by instalments. Failure to make payments on time may mean we cannot guarantee your child's place on the trip.

In the event that your child has to withdraw from the trip on medical grounds a full refund may be possible providing the claim is supported by a doctor's note and is accepted by our insurers. All insurance claims must be processed via school.

If your child withdraws from the trip for non-medical reasons and a replacement cannot be found, any refund will be limited depending on the costs already incurred by school in booking your child's place on the trip. Please note these costs will include any late cancellation charges that the tour operators may make. As the departure date approaches and the final balances have been settled by school no refunds will be possible.

