



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 to develop and demonstrate 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, we are delighted to launch the school's annual **Challenge and Celebration Week** which will take place between **Monday 12th and Thursday 15th July 2027**. All students will be off timetable during this week following a programme of either school based or off-site activities bespoke to their year group, returning to school for the morning of Friday 16th July for celebration assemblies. 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, if possible, during the week, enabling them to further deepen the bond they have with their tutees.

For Year 12: The Big Choice

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

Subject and cultural enrichment: This is a chance for students to explore subject enrichment in an international setting and to generate valuable cultural capital.

- **Science in Switzerland** (5 days & 4 nights, full board) - a chance to visit the world-famous CERN, the History of Science Museum, the Saleve Cable Car, Trip Trap experience, The Red Cross Museum and the headquarters of the United Nations. **The cost of this option will be approximately £1150*.**
- **Humanities in Krakow** (5 days & 4 nights full 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 remarkable Salt Mine in Wieliczka.) **The cost of this option will be approximately £1040*.**
- **NEW: Culture in Barcelona** (3 nights & 4 days, full board) Students will stay just outside Barcelona in the beautiful seaside town of Tossa de Mar, making excursions each day into Barcelona visiting sites such as La Rambla, Mercado La Boqueria, the Gothic Quarter, Placa Reial and Sagrada Familia and other buildings by Gaudi as well as the Dali house and museum **The cost of this option will be approximately £955*.**
- **Culture in Rome** (3 nights & 4 days, half board) - A walking tour of Rome. Students will explore the Italian capital and visit Roman Forum, the Palatine Hill and the Colosseum amongst other excursions. **The cost of this option will be approximately £1020*.**
- **Culture in Paris** (3 nights & 4 days, half board) - Students will travel by air and explore the French capital and go to museums and historical sites such as the Chateau de Versailles, the Musee d'Orsay, the Atelier des Lumières and a Street Art tour. Other excursions are planned such as a boat trips on



Moorlands
Learning Trust

Ilkley Grammar School

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the Seine and visits to iconic landmarks such as Montmartre, Notre Dame, Sacre Coeur and the Eiffel Tower. **The cost of this option will be approximately £850***

- **Leadership opportunities:** There are a limited number of places for post-16 student leaders to support the Key Stage 3 Day trips. Students who are selected to take on a leadership role on one of these KS3 trips will receive a subsidised place and while it is a position of responsibility and they will be working alongside staff, participating students will be able to enjoy many of the activities alongside the students they are supporting. For more information on these leadership opportunities see below.
- **Work Experience:** This is a chance for students to complete a week of **work experience (which must be signed off by the school Work Experience Co-ordinator)** and 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 **7th November 2026** and return all necessary paperwork.
- **Art Project:** As part of this option, students will design and make the props for 2027-28 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:** Students remaining in school will follow 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 Work Experience by agreement with the post-16 team.

***Once final numbers are agreed the final cost will be confirmed to you and reflected in the service on ParentPay.**

Please note that all students not selecting an option above will automatically follow the in-school programme and will be expected in school between the 12th and the 16th July.

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 9/10/26	Non-refundable 2 nd deposit 30/11/26	3 rd Instalment 30/01/27	4 th Instalment 26/02/27	Final Instalment 26/03/27	Full Cost
Science in Switzerland	£250	£225	£225	£225	£225	£1150*
Humanities in Krakow	£250	£195	£195	£200	£200	£1040*
Cultural trip to Barcelona	£250	£175	£175	£175	£175	£955*
Cultural trip to Rome	£250	£185	£185	£200	£200	£1020*
Cultural trip to Paris	£250	£150	£150	£150	£150	£850*
Leadership - The Big Camp Out (Y7)	£50	N/A	N/A	£50	N/A	£100
Leadership - KS3 Carousel, Art Project, KS3 Theatre Production	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	FREE
Leadership – Yr 8 Carousel	£50	£50	£40	£50	N/A	£190
Leadership – Yr 9 Carousel	£55	£55	£50	£50	N/A	£210

*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/>

Finally, as Challenge & Celebration Week involves taking students into the wider community, and in several cases abroad where they may be involved in activities that carry some risk as well as interacting with members of the public and potentially acting as student leaders themselves, trip leaders must be confident that known risks associated with the behaviour of an individual can be reasonably and safely managed. Please therefore be aware that in cases where there are significant concerns around the behaviour and decision-making of an individual a risk assessment will be made and any necessary mitigations put in place. Parents/carers and the student will be required to agree and sign this risk assessment before further payments will be accepted and before the student will be allowed to participate. Please note that, with regret, the school may not be able to fully refund all payments made for students assessed as posing significant risk to self or others prior to, or during C&C Week, or who have to be withdrawn from activities for reasons other than those supported by a doctor's note.

Next steps:

Please complete **THIS FORM** no later than **9am on Friday 25th September**; please only complete the form once. In addition to this, it is also vital that a non-refundable deposit is uploaded to ParentPay no later than **Friday 9th October 2026** the service for this will be available by **4pm Friday 2nd October**. It is with regret that failure to do this may result in your child not being able to gain a place on your preferred option.

If you have any other questions about the week, please email admin@igs.mlt.co.uk ensuring that you put your child's name, year group and the nature of your query (e.g. financial) clearly in the email. Further information will follow once your child's place has been allocated on the trip.

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

Yours sincerely,
Mr J. A. Gutch

Deputy Headteacher: Post-16 & Personal Development
Educational Visits Co-ordinator

***Further information on Post-16 Leadership opportunities on KS3 trips**

- **Supporting the Year 7 Big Camp**

Selected post-16 students will be acting in a leadership capacity supporting Yr7 and will participate in a carousel of 4 day-based activities with the option of camping out for 1 night. **Activity 1 & 2:** The Big Camp Out, 2 days of team building activities on the school field, provided by an outdoor education company, with an option to camp out for 1 night (Evening meal, breakfast & lunch on the 2nd day is included). **Activity 3:** A visit to Flamingo Land - experience the fun and thrills of the rides. **Activity 4:** Mission on The Moor - An action-packed day full of problem solving and tasks.

The subsidised cost of this option will be £100

- **Supporting the Year 9 Carousel of Day Trips**

Students will participate in a carousel of 4 day-based activities which typically includes a visit to Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Bowling/Cinema, 'Go Ape' Temple Newsham and North Yorkshire Water Park.

The cost of this option will be £210

- **Supporting the Year 8 Carousel of day trips**

Students will support Yr8 Students will participate in a carousel of 4 day-based activities which typically include Ingleton Waterfalls & White Scar Caves, a visit to Blackpool Pleasure Beach, a day in York (itinerary to be confirmed) and a day at 'Go Ape' Temple Newsham.

The cost of this option will be £195

- **Supporting the KS3 Local Carousel**

Students will participate in a carousel of 4 day-based local 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 Design and Technology department 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 with an ice cream/lolly at the end!

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

This option will be FREE

Please Note

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 the school C&C Week activities 12th – 15th July 2027, returning to school for Friday 16th July
- ✓ 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.