



8 December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Year 7 Leader, I am excited to inform you that we will be organising a Year 7 trip to Whitemoor Lakes Adventure Centre in Lichfield, Staffordshire. Outdoor adventure school residential trips are an excellent way to enhance learning and build upon foundations learnt in the classroom, developing a wider skill set.

Students will take part in a range of activities, which may include Open Canoeing, Raft Building, Zip Wire and Archery plus evening events. These activities are led by Whitemoor's own team of qualified instructors. Each activity has its own risk assessment. Our aim is for the students to have fun, learn new skills, become more motivated as individuals, to take part in new and enriching experiences, discover more about themselves and their capabilities and to learn to support value and celebrate each other's success.

Overcoming new challenges and working collectively as a team can help improve students' relationships with their peers and foster better relations with teaching staff. Spending time away from home in an unfamiliar environment can bolster self-confidence and help instil problem solving skills and a sense of independence.

The trip will take place from **12th April – 14th April 2024**. I anticipate that we will leave the school site at 2pm on Friday 12th April and we will aim to leave Whitemoor Lakes at approximately 1pm on Sunday 14th April, returning to school for around 2.30pm. Please be aware that in order for the trip to run we do require a minimum number of students, and in the unlikely event we do not hit this figure it may not be feasible to run the trip.

In addition there is a maximum availability of 178 places available which is imposed by the venue. For this reason places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

The total cost per pupil contribution is £195.00, payable via ParentPay ([www.ParentPay.com](http://www.ParentPay.com).)

A deposit of £65 is required to secure your child's place and this will need to be paid by *Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024*. In order for your child to attend you need to give permission, by completing the required the details via ParentPay ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)), also by *Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024*.

Subsequent payments of £65 (instalment 2) and £65 (instalment 3) will need to be paid by *Friday 2nd February 2024* and *Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024* respectively. Payment can be as one single payment if this is preferential. Please note that once you have committed to a trip all deposits and monies paid will be non-refundable should your child withdraw from the trip.

I will be arranging an evening event next term, to share some important information specific to the trip. I will inform all parents and carers of this event in due course.

Educational offsite visits are an additional opportunity for students to support their learning. Should we have any concerns regarding a student's behaviour either prior to or in the time between signing up to the trip, that student will be withdrawn from the trip and individual parents will be notified accordingly.

It is advisable that students do not take valuables on this trip. However, if it is necessary, please ensure that your own insurance covers such items.

### **NLS Christmas Jumper Day**

On Friday 15 December, all students are invited to replace their blazer with a Christmas jumper. To raise money for Save the Children charity, we are asking students to donate £1, or parents/carers can pay via ParentPay.

### **NLS Christmas Hamper Appeal**

Each tutor group has been tasked to put together a Christmas Hamper with the aim of every pupil within the group contributing one item. The tutor group will donate the hamper to someone within the local community; this may be an elderly neighbour of a student, a local care home or a homeless shelter. Items could include biscuits, chocolates, cheese, jams, non-alcoholic drinks.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs S Barley-Morey  
(AHT Year 7 Leader)