



16 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Year 7 Whitemoor Lakes Residential Trip - Friday 16 April – Sunday 18 April 2026**

As Year 7 Lead, I am delighted to inform you that we are organising a Year 7 Residential Trip to Whitemoor Lakes Adventure Centre, located in Lichfield, Staffordshire ([www.whitemoorlakes.org.uk](http://www.whitemoorlakes.org.uk)).

Outdoor adventure residentials offer an excellent opportunity to enhance classroom learning and develop wider life skills. During the trip, students will take part in a range of exciting activities, which may include Abseiling, Raft Building, Zip Wire, and Archery, as well as a variety of evening events. All activities are led by Whitemoor Lakes' team of qualified instructors, each operating under robust risk assessments. Our aim is for students to have fun, build confidence, develop teamwork and communication skills, and take on new challenges. The trip also provides a fantastic opportunity for them to support, value, and celebrate one another's successes.

The trip will take place from Friday 16 April to Sunday 18 April 2027. We anticipate leaving school at 2.00pm on Friday 16 April, and returning to school by approximately 2.00pm on Sunday 18 April.

Please note that the trip requires a minimum number of participants to go ahead. In the unlikely event that we do not reach this number, the trip may not be feasible. There is also a maximum capacity of 190 students, set by the venue, so places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Should interest exceed capacity, a waiting list will be created.

The cost of the trip per student is £200 which covers transport to and from the venue, accommodation and all activities. To secure your child's place, a non-refundable deposit of £50 must be paid by Friday 6 November 2026 via ParentPay [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com). Parents/Carers must also complete the consent for your child to attend, emergency details and medical details.

The remaining balance can be paid in the following instalments:

- £50 – by Friday 4 December 2026
- £50 – by Friday 5 February 2027
- £50 – by Friday 5 March 2027

Please be aware that all deposits and payments are non-refundable should your child withdraw from the trip.

Educational site visits are an additional opportunity for students to support their learning. Should we have any concerns regarding a student's behaviour prior to the trip, that student will be withdrawn from the trip and individual parents will be notified accordingly. Any monies paid will be non-refundable unless a suitable replacement can be found.

It is advisable that students do not take valuables on this trip. However, if it is necessary, please ensure that your own insurance or any that has been published as coming with the visit covers such items

Mobiles phone will not be permitted on this trip. Any failure to adhere to this guidance will result in the use of the school consequence process: e.g. confiscation and the need for a parent/carer to collect. The Mobile Phone Policy can be found here: [Mobile Phone Policy](#)

In terms of medicine, parents/carers must acquaint themselves with the policy here: [Link to Policy on Supporting Students with Medical Needs](#). Parents/Carers will need to ensure they pass on all medicines (prescription or over-the-counter ones) with a copy of the Parental Agreement (consent) form found on page 7. If you need a paper copy of the form provided for you, please ask me as the Visit Leader at [sbarley-morey@northleamington.co.uk](mailto:sbarley-morey@northleamington.co.uk).

This residential is a highlight of the Year 7 experience — a fantastic opportunity for students to build independence, develop new friendships, and create lasting memories.

### **Year 7 English**

As previously advised, students will move into their new ability-based groups for English on **Wednesday 21 October**. This grouping has been carefully considered and is the result of a thorough process, drawing on a wide range of data, including KS2 data, baseline testing, teacher assessments and classroom observations.

The new groups will be viewable on Go4Schools from the morning of Wednesday 21 October, and following this students will receive a new timetable card from their tutor.

Throughout the Year 7 transition, the English department have placed a particular emphasis on the importance of reading and the role it plays in developing students' vocabulary, comprehension, creativity and confidence as readers and writers. We want to continue to foster a strong reading culture throughout Year 7 and ensure that every student has the opportunity to develop their reading skills and discover the enjoyment that reading can bring.

Our aim is to ensure that each student continues their English journey at secondary school in an environment that supports and challenges them appropriately. The groups have been designed to provide the best possible foundation for progress, while remaining flexible. Throughout the academic year, we will continue to monitor students' development closely, and adjustments to groupings may be made where necessary to ensure we can respond to individual students' needs and that every student can make sustained progress. However, each group will study the same topic areas, so the groups are not a barrier to success. Every lesson includes challenge activities, ensuring that students continue to develop the vital skills they will eventually need to become independent

We look forward to returning after half-term, when students will study the fascinating world of literary villains. Through exploring a range of texts and characters, students will develop their reading skills alongside their creative writing. They will have the opportunity to experiment with language, perspective and vocabulary to craft their own compelling villains. This exciting unit will allow students to develop their writing skills while deepening their understanding of character, narrative and grammar, as well as encouraging them to engage thoughtfully with what they read.

More information about our English curriculum can be found in the Learn section of the website, in our [Learning Journey and Curriculum Overviews](#)

If you have any queries regarding Year 7 English, in the first instance, please contact [lwilson@northleamington.co.uk](mailto:lwilson@northleamington.co.uk).

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs. S Barley-Morey**  
**Assistant Headteacher – Head of Year 7**