



5 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 22 January/23 January 2025

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Wednesday 22 January and Thursday 23 January 2025, details of which are attached. We have endeavoured to provide a range of activities for all students and have subsidised a number of these activities to try to keep costs to parents/carers as low as possible. These Curriculum Enrichment days offer valuable opportunities for students to experience activities not normally available in the curriculum.

We anticipate all students will take part in all activities.

In order to finance trips, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. The school subsidises some of the costs of the enrichment activities but is finding that costs are rising. If we do not receive enough parental donations, the trips will need to be cancelled. As the school receives a grant for students currently receiving free school meals, we do not require a contribution from these students as this can be funded from the grant; however, parental consent is still required. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for trips can be made using the online MCAS system <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>. If you are unable to pay online you can pay by cash or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone) but **you still need to give consent** to confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements outlined in this letter.

If you are making an online payment, please use the MCAS system to give your consent. If you are paying by cash/card or receive free school meals, please use the slip at the foot of this letter to give your consent and return the slip to the Finance Office/Student Reception.

The deadline for consent/payment is **Monday 16 December**.

Please ensure that we have your up to date emergency contact details and any relevant medical information for your child, as this information is taken from our school database.

School trips are covered by the Trust insurance policy. Please be aware that:

- a) except for visits abroad, insurance arrangements are the same as for students in educational establishments, i.e., that the Trust can only insure against the proven negligence by the Trust and/or its employees; and
- b) the Trust is a member of the RPA (Department for Education risk protection arrangement) which provides personal accident cover (see copy of the policy on the school website for details) but you may consider taking out your own personal accident cover to supplement this if appropriate.

Please would you direct any further enquiries to the named teacher who is organising the activity.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Wordsworth
Head of School
The Castle School

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Please return this slip to the Finance Office/Student Reception by Monday 16 December if not giving consent through MCAS.

Enrichment Days 22-23 January 2025

I give permission for my son/daughter

Form to attend these Enrichment Days.

Signed (Parent/Carer) Date

Year 10 Students

| Wednesday 22 January | | Thursday 23 January | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| GOM Houses | RBY Houses | GOM Houses | RBY Houses |
| Careers: Mock interviews Work Experience PSHE: Prevent Payslips and Taxes | Bath University Trip | Bath University Trip | Careers: Mock interviews Work Experience PSHE: Prevent Payslips and Taxes |

Bath University Trip

Organising teacher: Mrs P Hunt and Mrs J Corbett

Cost: £15:00

As part of their Careers Education, all of our Year 10 students have a fantastic opportunity to visit the University of Bath campus to gain an insight into higher education. This visit will include a tour, a talk and a student Q and A session. RBY will be visiting on Wednesday 22 January and GOM on Thursday 23rd January.

We will be leaving school by coach at 8.00am (students need to be here at 7:50am) meeting at Taunton and Bridgwater College bus bay and aim to be back by 4:30pm. Students must be in school uniform and will need to bring a packed lunch with them (free school meal students will be provided with a packed lunch). If they suffer from travel sickness please ensure that they have taken the relevant medication and that students with asthma etc have inhalers with them (if needed).

Careers: Mock Interviews / Work Experience

Organising teacher: Mrs P Hunt / Mrs M Rolls

Mock Interviews

Students will take part in a mock interview morning on Wednesday 22 January (GOM) and Thursday 23 January (RBY). Each student will have a 15-minute interview, which will include interview questions and feedback. Interviews will be conducted by a mix of local employers, colleges and volunteers. The purpose of the morning is to give students an opportunity to experience an interview situation and to help improve their confidence, preparing them for future interviews for college, jobs, apprenticeships, etc.

All students who are in school are expected to participate. Students will have been given the opportunity to complete their CV beforehand and should bring this to their interview. They will also be given a list of the type of questions they will be asked in order to give them chance to prepare. The mock interviews will be held during periods 1 and 2. Employers will decide on their "successful recruit" and a "highly recommended" student. There will then be a presentation in the main hall during Period 3.

Work Experience

Students will have time in the IT Suites with their tutors support to:

- Search and apply for work experience placements or
- Complete a research activity on their chosen industry in preparation for their placement in June

PSHE

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

Students will be in tutor groups focusing the following topic:

Prevent

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Know that some types of behavior within relationships are criminal, including violent behavior and coercive control.
- To understand that we live in a society that celebrates diversity and difference.
- To be able to articulate what diversity is.
- To know to challenge anyone who has views which are anti-diverse.

Payslips and Taxes

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To know how to read a payslip and contributions made through taxes.
- To know how to keep personal information safe online and how to report it if something goes wrong.
- To know common types of financial exploitation.
- The differences between a credit and debit card.