

20 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Tuesday 11 June - Year 10 Photography Trip to the Eden Project

I am writing to let you know that on Tuesday 11 June all GCSE photographers will be visiting the Eden project as part of their GCSE studies. The purpose of the day is to do photo-shooting for the Layers project, with key shoots exploring the natural world, selective focus, pattern, and architecture and the build environment. After our visit students will work in the final weeks of the school year on presenting their shooting, and on creating a final piece for the Layers coursework unit.

Students must be in school uniform but can wear comfortable footwear as they will be walking around the site all day. As the day will involve some periods of working outside we recommend that the students bring a waterproof coat. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink, although students currently receiving free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch.

We ask that students bring a camera with them if possible, we will also be lending our school DSLR and compact cameras, but we will not have enough for every student. If students are planning to use their phones to take photographs, they will need to make sure they are FULLY charged and that they have capacity for 300+ new images.

Students need to meet at Bridgwater and Taunton College bus layby at 7.50am so we can leave promptly at 8.00am and we aim to return to school for 5:30pm approximately.

The cost of the trip is £23.50 which covers the coach journey and entry into the Eden Project. In order to finance this trip, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. We very much hope you are able to contribute; if we do not get enough contributions we will have to cancel the trip. 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 through Scopay. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for this trip can be made using the online Scopay system, <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>. If you are unable to pay online you can pay by cash/cheque (made payable to The Castle School) or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone).

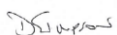
Scopay is also used as acceptance of your parental consent and that you are satisfied with the arrangements outlined in this letter. If you do not wish your child to participate you will need to login and give a reason why. We value your feedback and will take this into consideration in our future planning. The deadline for payment/consent is **Tuesday 4 June**.

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, ie, 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.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Simpson, Trip Leader

