



5 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 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 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**.

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 7 Students

Wednesday 22 January		Thursday 23 January	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Bristol Theatre Trip – '& Juliet'		PSHE Democracy Money Prejudice and Protected Characteristics	

Bristol Theatre Trip - & Juliet

Organising teacher: Mrs A Step

Cost: £34.00

We are delighted to be taking the whole of Year 7 to the theatre during the January enrichment days. We have booked tickets to see the matinee performance of '& Juliet' at The Bristol Hippodrome on Wednesday 22 January. The cost of the trip will be £34.00.

Students must arrive at school in uniform and register as usual at the normal time. Before we leave, students will take part in a carousel of workshops that will focus on the musical with their Creative Arts' faculty teachers and tutors. We will leave school at approximately **12:30pm** and travel to Bristol by coach. Students must bring a packed lunch with them and this could be eaten either at school before we leave, at break time, or once we have arrived in Bristol. The matinee performance begins at 2:30pm and lasts 2 hours 30 minutes inclusive of the interval. We anticipate returning to Taunton by **6:45 – 7:00pm** – traffic dependent. The coach will drop students at the bus stop at the front of Bridgwater and Taunton College.

We advise that students bring plenty of food/snacks and water to last until they get home. Students will be asked not to eat during the performance and respect theatre etiquette throughout.

Key information:

- Come to school at the usual time in uniform
- Theatre workshops with your teachers in the morning
- Departing The Castle School at 12:30pm
- Returning to school at approx. 6:45pm
- Bring a packed lunch, tea, snacks and water

If you have any questions about payment for the trip please contact student finance. For general questions about the day please do not hesitate to contact us.

PSHE

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

Students will be in tutor groups focusing on the following topics:

Democracy

Learning Objectives:

- A look at how democracy has shaped our country and how other societies govern themselves.

Money

Learning Objectives:

- To identify how to manage your money in the future.
- To understand the cost elements of running a household.
- To understand how a bank balance works.
- To find out where to seek support and advice on money matters.

Prejudice and Protected Characteristics

Learning Objectives:

- To know about the unacceptability of prejudiced based language and behaviour, offline and online, including sexism, homophobia, transphobia, racism, ableism and faith based prejudiced.
- To know the law around protected characteristics e.g. employment
- To begin to be confident in challenging discrimination #notatourschool