



5 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 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.

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.

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

Year 9 Students

Wednesday 22 January		Thursday 23 January	
GOM Houses	RBV Houses	GOM Houses	RBV Houses
<p>Careers: Introduction to Higher Education - Visit to University Centre Somerset</p> <p>PSHE: #NAOS -The art of debating</p> <p>Consumer Choices and Rights</p>	<p>Army Outreach Team: (in school visit)</p> <p>PSHE: #NAOS -The art of debating</p> <p>Consumer Choices and Rights</p> <p>Drugs and County Lines</p>	<p>Army Outreach Team: (in school visit)</p> <p>PSHE: Drugs and County Lines</p> <p>PSHE: Broadway Lodge Addiction recovery centre visitors</p>	<p>Careers: Introduction to Higher Education - Visit to University Centre Somerset</p> <p>PSHE: Broadway Lodge Addiction recovery centre visitors</p>

Careers: Introduction to Higher Education - Visit to University Centre Somerset

Organising teacher: **Mrs P Hunt**

Students will visit the University Centre Somerset with their tutors. UCS will host a session for students introducing them to Higher Education and offering a HE taster session choosing from a range of different subjects. Students will be sent details of how to book onto their chosen session via Eventbrite.

Army Outreach Team

Organising teacher: **Mrs M Rolls/Mrs P Hunt**

Students will be visited by the Army Outreach Team: a team of multi skilled soldiers specifically trained to work with young people and to educate on careers. Students will start by attending careers talk with the team before taking part in an hour of outdoor challenges, designed to develop communication, teamwork, problem solving and leadership skills.

Students will need to arrive in school in their PE kit for this activity (RBV Wednesday 22 Jan and GOM Thursday 23 Jan)

PSHE

Organising teacher: **Mr M Wilkins**

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

#Not at Our School – the art of debating

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Know the characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including trust, privacy, consent and the management of conflict and reconciliation in family relationships.
- How to plan a balance between school, work, leisure, exercise and online activity.
- The characteristics of mental and emotional health; to develop empathy and understanding about how daily actions can affect people's mental health.
- To start to understand how to challenge discrimination #notatourschool.

Consumer Choices and Rights

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To equip young people with the knowledge to fully exercise their consumer rights.
- To give students an understanding regarding the law and how to complain if their consumer rights have been breached.
- To signpost information and organisations that will support people if they find themselves in disputes as consumers.

Drugs and County Lines

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Understand the wider ripple effect of drug use and addiction for example: how it can affect families, drugs convictions and future life, criminality, and exploitation.
- To be able to use knowledge from PSHE in order to keep safe in future situations, for example using a dynamic risk assessment if needed.
- How to recognise when others are using manipulation, persuasion, or coercion and how to respond.

PSHE Guest Speakers

Organising teacher: **Mr M Wilkins**

Broadway Lodge - Addiction recovery centre.

On **Thursday 23 January** we will have a visit from Broadway Lodge Action Recovery Centre. Broadway Lodge offers residential addiction treatment and recovery places to people from across the UK. The Castle School has worked with the centre for over ten years to bring the reality of addiction and the impact it can have on people's lives to our students. Students have one hour with the lead counsellor from Broadway Lodge as he talks through his work and the work of the centre. The second hour will be spent hearing directly from people suffering from addiction and talking directly with the clients from Broadway Lodge. This is an extremely powerful experience and previous students have said it has significantly changed their thinking around addictive substances and behaviours.

The objectives are:

- Know the effects of addiction on people's physical, mental, emotional and financial health.
- Recognise addiction and understand the impact of this.
- Question the mixed messages about drugs from media, film and culture.
- The unknown consequences and addictiveness of taking drugs.