

11 February 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian

Year 7 New Forest Expedition Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st June 2020

We are delighted to be launching our annual multi activity residential expedition which this year will take place in the New Forest. RGS has now been running a Year 7 residential trip for over 20 years and it is an excellent introduction to the fantastic expedition opportunities at RGS.

The aim of the 2 days is to give our pupils the chance to work with each other in an informal environment, further develop communication and leadership skills, increase self-esteem and motivation and improve their self-determination. It will also provide a fantastic experience for pupils to stretch themselves, develop and have fun while making friends outside their immediate peer group. The activities will include bush craft, low-ropes and high-ropes, trekking and other team building activities.

The provider, Wilderness Expertise, is Adventure Activities Licensing Authority licensed which means they are able to provide all the above activities. They use highly qualified experienced and approved Leaders, who will be responsible for safety as well as skills development. These Leaders have each been chosen for their leadership, coaching, personal skills, experience, training, qualifications and have all been screened by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Cost: The cost of this trip is **£245** and includes food, fully qualified instructors, all group equipment, tents, medical kit, 24hr safety backup and transport. *We would not wish for boys to be excluded from the trip for financial reasons. If you feel that the cost involved is prohibitive, please do contact me in strictest confidence as there may be funding available to assist you.*

Timings: Depart: 0630 on Saturday 20th June 2020 **Return:** 1700 on Sunday 21st June 2020

If you wish your son to take part in the trip, please log onto ParentPay, look up the “Year 7 Residential Trip” and pay the **first instalment of £100 by Tuesday 25th February** to register interest. As there are only 120 spaces available on the trip, the **final allocation of spaces will be drawn from a hat on Wednesday 26th February**, with the remainder being placed on a reserve list. Should an applicant not be successful a full refund of the deposit will be provided. The **second instalment of £145 will be due by Wednesday 1st April**. If you are unable to pay online, please contact the Finance Office promptly to pay by an alternative method.

Finally, I would like to invite you to a **Parents’ Information Evening on Tuesday 28th April 2020 at 6pm in the Queen’s Hall** to run through all the pre-expedition administration and answer any questions you may have. As usual, please inform the School of any changes to the medical condition of your son and any changes to emergency contact numbers before the trip departs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the visit.

Yours sincerely,

Bjorn Rose
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