

26 April 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian

**Year 7 New Forest Expedition Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 11<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

We are delighted to announce that we will be offering 120 spaces on 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 two 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 team building activities, a low ropes 'off the ground' activity, buggy building, wide games, navigation and water games.

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 and qualifications and have all been screened by the Disclosure and Barring Service. In addition, COVID safe procedures will be in place throughout and students will be operating in small groups over the course of the weekend. All external facilities and staff will follow guidance as laid out by government legislation as well as undertaking testing in advance of teams arriving.

**Cost:** The cost of this trip is **£175** 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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2021 **Return:** 1800 on Sunday 11<sup>st</sup> July 2021

If you wish your son to take part in the trip, please **log onto ParentPay from 0900 on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April**, look up the "Year 7 Residential Trip 2021" and pay the **first instalment of £100 by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May** to register interest. As there are only 120 spaces available on the trip, the **final allocation of spaces will be drawn from a hat**, 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 £75 will be due by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. If you are unable to pay online, please contact the Finance Office promptly to pay by an alternative method. Those boys successful in their application will be notified on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May via Teams.

Finally, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have by email (address below). 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.

Yours sincerely,

Bjorn Rose  
Head of Year 7  
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