

20 May 2021

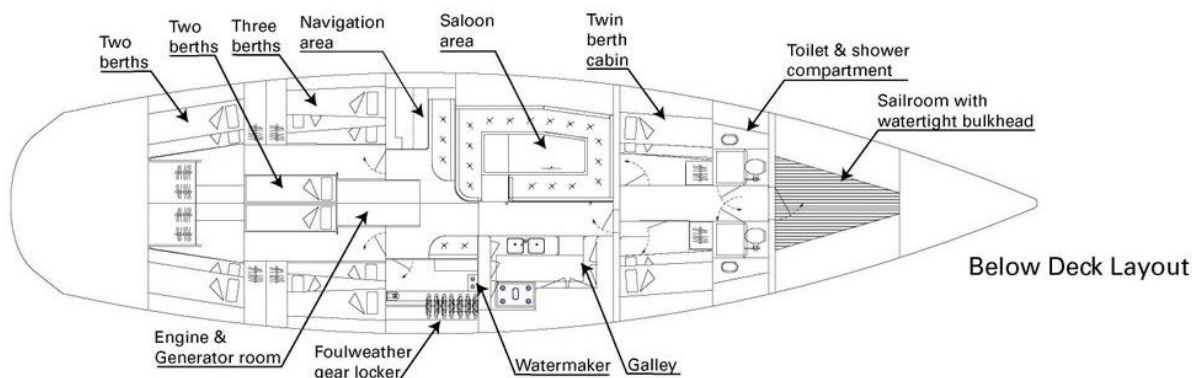
Dear Parent / Guardian

Tallships Challenge - Personal Development Trip
19th – 24th July 2021.

We are delighted to announce a special opportunity for a limited number of our Year 11 students to take part in a unique and highly memorable experience. We have a few remaining places available and are opening up to Year 11 students to apply should they wish.

The challenge of crewing a Tall Ship presents personal development opportunities that will prove invaluable in life. Students will get involved in all aspects of sailing the yacht. This will include stowing and handling sails, helming, navigating and working in the galley.

Each Tall Ships Challenger Yacht takes a crew of up to 18, this will include 5 professional, experienced, skilled and knowledgeable seafarers (a Skipper, 1st Mate, x2 Watch Leaders and a Youth Mentor) as well as 2 members of staff from RGS and 10 students.



The programme will include a 6-day journey starting and finishing in Portsmouth harbour. Should weather conditions and students' capability allow, we will also attempt to make a visit to the Channel Islands.

Due to the bespoke nature of this trip as well as wanting to ensure each participant acquires the most from the experience and as a number of places have already been confirmed we can only accommodate up to **12 students**.

No existing experience or knowledge is needed, just a sense of adventure.

Cost: The cost of this trip is **£650** and includes:

- Coach transport from RGS to Portsmouth Harbour and return
- All food & meals onboard
- Waterproofs, safety equipment, life jackets, Tallships T-shirt
- 4hr Safety Training course before departure from Portsmouth
- Professional crew
- RYA Start Yachting Certificate upon completion of the course
- RYA Sailing Logbook
- Insurance

We would not wish boys to be excluded from the trip for purely 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.

If you wish your son to take part in the trip, please **log onto ParentPay from 0900 on Friday 14th May**, look up the “Tallships Challenge” and pay the **first instalment of £100** to register. As there are only 12 spaces available on the trip, the **final allocation will be on a first come first served basis**. While I do understand this may mean some students could miss out, this is a new programme that we have been developing and if needed we will be looking to launch additional opportunities in the future. So, if you do not get a place please email me to register your interest as we will ensure you are given a priority place at the earliest opportunity.

PLEASE ALSO BE AWARE THAT THESE PLANS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SHORT NOTICE CHANGES OR CANCELLATION DUE TO UPDATES IN COVID GUIDANCE OR ISOLATION PROCEDURES. In the event of any changes or cancellation the School to the best of our ability will look to recover any costs committed. Many companies now have COVID guarantees in place and the School has undertaken due diligence checks. However, this may still mean some of the funding is unrecoverable and parents/guardians understand this when signing students up.



Finally, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. I hope this is an exciting and inspiring opportunity.

Yours sincerely,
Dominic Clatworthy *FRGS*
Director of Co-Curricular Education
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