

1 November 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Cotham School, Cotham Lawn Road, Bristol, BS6 6DT

Headteacher: Ms Jo Butler

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Year 7 Adventure Week 3 – 7 July 2017

An exciting opportunity for all Year 7 students!

For many years now Cotham School has taken Year 7 students on a 5 day summer camp. Last year we decided to try somewhere new and visited **JCA**, **Mill Rythe**, **on Hayling Island**, **Hampshire**. This was a great success and students had a fantastic time, so we have decided to go there again. This adventurous activities week for Year 7 is considered to be one of the highlights of the first year at Cotham. All Year 7 students have the opportunity to take part and we hope that everyone will go. Student responses are always very positive and they talk about their memories of the Adventure Week for the rest of their time at Cotham. In addition, there is a huge social benefit to the students with lots of group activities and a chance for them all to get to know each other better.

Adventure Week is an important educational experience and is key to your child's social development. The focus of the week will be on building a Growth Mindset approach to learning, where the students will develop character, grit and resilience in taking part in challenging activities. JCA are an Outdoor Adventurous Activities company with an excellent record in providing tailor-made activity programmes for schools. The accommodation consists of dormitory-style rooms and bathroom facilities. Students will be able to share accommodation with friends they have chosen within their tutor group. Good quality meals are provided in a permanent canteen. The trip centres on a wide range of outdoor activities supervised by fully qualified staff, who meet strict health and safety guidelines. We organise the activities around tutor groups, but students will also take part in activities working as a whole year group. In the evening there will be a focus on tutor team-building activities.

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £275 towards this residential week, which includes; food, accommodation, insurance, transport, all trips and activities. If you would like your son / daughter to take part, please log onto your account in WISEPAY, under Trips and Visits, via the school's website and make your payment. Payment can be made in full or in instalments as shown. If insufficient contributions are received unfortunately the visit will be cancelled and all contributions that have been received will be refunded in full.

Payment schedule:

Deposit	by	30 November	£50
Instalment 1	by	20 January	£75
Instalment 2	by	24 February	£75
Final Balance	by	24 March	£75

Please ensure that your payments are made in accordance with the schedule above, as we are committed to paying the travel company on a similar timescale.

If your child is registered to receive a Free School Meal, Pupil Premium funding or is adopted or in care, the school may be able to provide a subsidy, up to a maximum of £85, towards the cost of this visit. We will be able to confirm the actual subsidy available once the total number of eligible students is known. If you are unsure if your child is eligible for the above subsidy please contact the school Admin Office on 0117 9198054 or email strachanm@cotham.bristol.sch.uk

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We will produce a booklet after Easter about the camp, which will include information on the items your child needs to pack, the structure of the week and other important information. However if you have any questions at present about the week please do contact Mrs Wood (Learning Coordinator for Year 7) or Mrs Coney (Outdoor Activities Coordinator).

Yours sincerely

S Coney

Outdoor Activities Coordinator

Wood

Learning Co-ordinator Year 7

D'Leong

Deputy Headteacher