

Dear Parent/Carer

December 2024

I would like to offer your son/daughter the opportunity to experience the action packed Year 7 camping trip to Youlbury Scout Activity Centre. The trip will include a wealth of exciting activities, which will develop student's self-esteem, social skills and ability to work in a team. The students will be camping under canvas in the extensive and secure grounds of the Youlbury Scout Centre. All activities are run by either a qualified member of our staff or the Youlbury Centre instructors. Please see overleaf for a list of possible activities.

Students will be travelling by coach from Langtree on **Monday 14th July** and arriving back at school on **Friday 18th July**. A more exact time of departure and arrival home will be provided closer to the time.

I am trying my best to get this letter out much earlier than usual to help parents/carers with the financial planning towards such a trip. The cost of the trip is determined by many factors, but the biggest variables are the activities, food and accommodation provided by the Scouts at Youlbury and the number of students that come on the trip. The more students that join us the cheaper we can run the trip.

In order for students to make new friends and become closer as a year group we have always tried to encourage **all students** in the year to be involved in this event, which has always been a Year 7 tradition at Langtree. This is the only trip at Langtree where we can take the whole year group and I hope your son/daughter will be a part of it in July 2024.

I have done some calculations and tried to work out the best case and worst case costs for this trip. At this point therefore I would like to ask you to sign up your son/daughter with the understanding that the cost will be somewhere between **£300.00 and £350.00**. This will include travel, 4 nights full board tented accommodation, insurance and all day instructed activities. We will let you know the final cost as soon as we know who is coming, my fingers are crossed that all students will be there.

If you would like your son/daughter to be considered for a place on this invaluable visit, please pay a non-refundable deposit of £60.00 by **Monday 27th January 2025**, and complete the consent form via SCOPAY as detailed below.

Outline of Payment Plan:

Deposit: £60 by the 27th January followed by 5 stage payments of £58 each on 26/02, 26/03, 25/04, 21/05 and the 23/06. The final stage payment will be amended if the price reduces.

Methods of payment and consent are as follows:

Please pay by credit or debit card via the school website or the SCOPAY app. You will also give consent for the trip here

- To do this you should go to<u>http://langtreeschool.com</u> and click on the SCOPAY icon on the front page. If you don't have your pupil link code contact finance who can give you the code. Alternatively, you can download the app from your app store once you have an account set up
- You will be asked to give consent for your child to attend the trip on SCOPAY before you make the payment.
- If you have any queries or difficulties with payment, please contact the finance office at: <u>finance@langtreeschool.com</u>

If at this stage you need more time to assess the cost of the trip but would still like your child to be considered for a place, or if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, then please contact the finance team by phoning the school or email <u>finance@langtreeschool.com</u>.

Langtree School, Woodcote, Reading, Berkshire RG8 0RA

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As you may well be aware, the school has a twitter account which we use to provide updates to parents of all residential trips out of school. Please follow us @head4094 to receive important news bulletins from the trip leaders via twitter. Updates will also be posted on the school website.

Registering your child on this trip represents a commitment that they will take part in this trip. Trips require extensive planning, organisation and careful costing based on the number of students participating. It is not therefore possible for students to withdraw from a trip having previously made a commitment to take part. All monies paid are on a non refundable basis as long as the trip goes ahead. The full balance of the trip must be paid prior to the trip taking place. Staff on the trip will work hard to ensure all succeed throughout the trip including staying overnight in tents. If your child refuses to stay over one night, **they will not be able to rejoin the trip**. Once one pupil starts going home enjoying home comforts and coming back to camp, many others begin to want the same and this becomes unmanageable.

The school reserves the right to withdraw students from a trip when there are concerns about behaviour, attendance or attitude. If booking a place on this trip please take a moment with your child to go to our website and look at our <u>Code of Conduct</u> for trips and visits. Booking a place on this trip implies agreement with this document.

All trips and visits involving students from Langtree School are always planned and risk assessed extremely carefully, in order to ensure the highest level of safety for our students as we possibly can.

While we will continue to offer learning in 'the outdoor classroom,' as we always have done so at Langtree, I would want to assure parents that we have reviewed all of our arrangements accordingly and that we will do everything in our control to ensure that all students participating on a trip can do so with a sense of safety, confidence and enjoyment.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Vitty Trip Leader List of possible activities

Aerial Trek 3G Swing Bushcraft Campfire Leap of Faith

- Abseiling Wide Games Archery Drama Disco
- Team Building Crate stacking Zip Wire Climbing Tomahawk Throwing
- Low Ropes Orienteering Jacob's Ladder High All Aboard Water Rocket Building

The activities are designed to improve team cohesion between students as well as challenging individuals physically and mentally. Although we as staff will never force students to take part in activities, we will certainly try to encourage all pupils to give it a go. This will mean a few students facing some individual fears. From my experience, those students who have a go, always achieve the goal and therefore grow substantially in terms of confidence, self-esteem, self-image and a sense of fulfilment. I would like all pupils to turn up to the trip with a positive outlook ready to take part in all activities.

More information about the centre and activities can be found at: https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/centre/youlbury

